

APPROVED AS AMENDED: FEBRUARY 19, 2026
WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUSINESS SESSION
January 15, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: President Gawas called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Accomplished during the Opening of the Inauguration.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Accomplished during the Opening of the Inauguration.

ATTENDEES: President: Gawas; Council: Charles, Geevers, Mandel Weiss; Mayor: Marathe; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney Representative: Herbert; Township Clerk: Sheehan; Township Deputy Clerk, Godin

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Accomplished during the Opening of the Inauguration.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND/OR TOPICS FOR PRIORITY CONSIDERATION

President Gawas read the Muslim American Heritage Month Proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Clifton, 18 Galston Rd., spoke on behalf of the WWBPA regarding the recent pedestrian accident on N. Post Rd. and Courtney Dr. She recommended and urged the Township to install flashing beacons at the crosswalk.

Rosalind Westlake, Attorney for Clark Plaza, spoke on behalf of the landlord and provided an update on their tenant's concerns. She thanked the township for the temporary tax relief grant and asked what more the Township could do for the tenants.

Eshret Kamal, 217 Clarksville Rd., spoke of his business', Global Grill and Halal and on behalf of Young's Cleaners concerns during the bridge closure.

Kathy Brennan, 1 Courtney Dr., spoke on her experiences at the crosswalk on N. Post Rd. and Courtney Dr., she urged the Township to look into installing flashing beacons.

Steven Phillips, 271 Clarksville Rd., expressed his concerns about the Clarksville Rd. Bridge closure and the effect on his business, NJ Taekwondo Kickboxing, in Village Square Plaza.

Tim Streenstrup, 271 Clarksville Rd., expressed his concerns about the Clarksville Rd. Bridge closure and the effect on his business, The Little Gym, in Village Square Plaza.

Sangeeta Waner, 271 Clarksville Rd., expressed her concerns about the Clarksville Rd. Bridge closure and the effect on her business, The Pottery Place, in Village Square Shopping Plaza.

Ruche Vyar, 271 Clarksville Rd., expressed her concerns about the Clarksville Rd. Bridge closure and the effect on her business, Kumon, in Village Square Shopping Plaza.

Nestor Gonzalez, 271 Clarksville Rd., expressed his concerns about the Clarksville Rd. Bridge closure and the effect on his business, Capuano Restaurant, in Village Square Plaza.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Mayor Marathe thanked the business owners for their patience and acknowledged the concerns they raised. He emphasized the Council is actively working to address the ongoing issues. He also noted the Tax Assessor collaborated with the owners' attorney to secure a reduction in assessments and taxes effective January 1st.

The Mayor explained the Township has reached the limit of what it can do regarding signage and reiterated he has no authority over private utility companies or the relief they provide. He outlined the steps the Township has already taken and the actions it will continue to pursue. Mayor Marathe then provided an update on his January 7th and 8th meetings with Amtrak. He shared, Senator Andy Kim is now involved and expressed hopes this added support will help advance discussions with NJ DOT and Amtrak. At this time, however, he does not have a timeline for the bridge repair, citing ongoing bureaucratic delays between NJ DOT and Amtrak. He noted a discussion with the County Engineer and possible short term, limited options to open the bridge temporarily. He stated he will notify the owners as soon as he hears a solution from the County Engineer.

President Gawas added she is meeting with the owners and representatives from the County and State on January 20th to discuss issues and encouraged all the owners to join. She also noted they are brainstorming ideas with the property manager and PTAs.

A discussion ensued with Council and the Mayor on filling out the Clarksville Road Bridge Closure: Business & Official Mitigation Survey. The survey is for West Windsor local businesses and municipal/community leaders affected by the Clarksville Road Bridge closure. The goal is to gather crucial data on access, financial impact, and the best communication channels to limit disruption and support local commerce.

Ms. Schmid announced municipal offices would be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Mayor Marathe also made the following announcements:

- Announced the MLK Jr. Day program.

- Provided an update and clarification from the Police Department on the pedestrian accident.
- Noted there is a funding request on the agenda to get matching grants from Green Acres Open Space Grant.
- Noted the Fourth Round Affordable Housing lawsuit has been settled. He will provide more information on the settlement at the next Council Meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Charles made the following comments:

- Spoke about the events planned for MLK Jr. Day
- Supports the town installing or working with the county for installation of flashing beacons for pedestrian safety.
- Expressed his personal support for the businesses affected by the bridge closure and shared his interest in speaking with the owners about how Council can assist. He emphasized the need for responsiveness and urgency from the state and other agencies, offering several suggestions for next steps. He also acknowledged the broader negative impacts the closure is having on the rest of the township.

Councilmember Geevers made the following comments:

- Questioned if the Mayor if he could reach out to the new Governor to pass on the issues we are facing with the bridge closure. She also supports the local businesses.
- On January 3rd she joined the Central Jersey Sikh Association for their grand opening of the new Dwal Hall. She noted it was a beautiful temple and enjoyed her time there.
- Reiterated the Human Relations Council is leading the MLK Jr. Day services.
- Notes Council will discuss flashing beacons during the budget and hopes the Engineering Division will build a bigger package to entice bidders.
- Wished everyone a Happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Councilmember Weiss expressed his support for the Mayor and the work being done with Amtrak and NJ DOT. He noted both he and the council are open to suggestions and will do what they can to assist during the bridge closure. On the topic of flashing beacons, he emphasized the importance of being proactive in identifying areas which may become traffic concerns as the township continues to grow in population.

Councilmember Mandel made the following comments:

- Agreed with Councilmember Weiss regarding the flashing beacons and traffic.
- Spoke about various ideas to highlight the businesses effected by the bridge closure.
- Congratulated Sonia Gawas on being sworn in as Council President and other members on their new positions.
- Welcomed a new business; Messa, in Nassau Park.

- Encouraged residents to go to the Not Afraid Art Show at the Arts Council. She noted a juice bar business will be opening in Village Square.
- On January 3rd she and council members attended the Central Jersey Sikh Association Grand Opening and thanked them for their hospitality.
- Discussed her goals for the year to include software improvements, evaluating road infrastructure, township communications to residents, environmental initiatives and road safety.

President Gawas made the following comments:

- Stated she will look into the budget for public safety regarding flashing beacons.
- Reminded the Village Square Plaza business owners council is doing everything they can to help during the bridge closure.
- Wished everyone a Happy New Year and Happy Makar Sakranti. She wished her family, watching in India, a Good morning.
- Reflected on the honor of serving as Council President and expressed her gratitude to her colleagues and the residents. She spoke about her deep connection to West Windsor and the pride she takes in the community. She thanked former councilmembers, former Clerk Gay Huber, and her parents for instilling in her a strong sense of volunteerism. She also thanked her husband and children for their continued support and for embracing the life of service their family has chosen. She thanked her godparents for always guiding her in the right direction. She wished a happy heavenly birthday to her uncle and shared how much he meant to her and how deeply she misses him.
- Spoke of her cancer journey and how the community uplifted and supported her over the last two years.
- Recognized her colleagues on township council as well as the Township staff, boards, volunteers and first responders.
- Noted how she will approach this upcoming year and her goals as Council President.

CHAIR/CLERK COMMENTS

Clerk Sheehan welcomed Joe Charles to council.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

A. RESOLUTIONS

B. MINUTES

October 27, 2025 – Business Session – As Amended
March 11, 2025 - Budget Session #2 – As Amended
March 11, 2025 Closed Session – As Amended
March 13, 2025 – Budget Session #3 – As Amended

C. Bills & Claims

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Mandel

Second: Weiss

RCV: Abstain Charles (was not on Council in 2025)

Aye Geevers

Aye Mandel

Aye Weiss

Aye Gawas

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL/CLERK

- 2026-R020 Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute a Limited Access Agreement Ellsworth Advisory Services, LLC, Block 5, Lot 20.01
- 2026-R021 Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mercer Area District of the Washington Crossing Council, Troop 40 Boy Scouts for the Period January 1, 2026 Through December 31, 2027
- 2026-R022 Authorizing the Business Administrator to Purchase One (1) New Conventional Chassis from Campbell Freightliner LLC under Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Contract #032824-DAI - \$125,810.00
- 2026-R023 Authorizing the Township Land Use Manager and Chief Financial Officer to Execute the Supplemental Funding Request Form - Acquisition Projects with NJDEP-Green Acres for a \$1,637,000.00 Open Space Grant

Motion to approve Resolutions 2026-R020 through 2026-R023: Weiss
Second: Mandel

RCV: Aye Charles
Aye Geevers
Aye Mandel
Aye Weiss
Aye Gawas

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Clifton, 18 Galston., thanked Council for their comments regarding the flashing beacons and spoke about an AARP Community Challenge Grant which supports projects to improve public places.

COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION TOPICS/NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Weiss noted the Board of Education swore in three new members and held a presentation led by the BOE attorneys about the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics for School Board members.

Councilmember Geevers noted the Planning Board will meet January 21st for their reorganization. The Shade Tree Commission will meet the 4th Wednesday of the month and there is no agenda posted yet for said meeting.

Councilmember Charles noted he attended the Human Relations Council meeting and they discussed the preparations for MLK Jr. Day.

Councilmember Mandel noted the Environmental Commission met on January 8th and discussed the Sustainable Jersey Energy grant, the watershed assessment and management plan and the draft natural landscape ordinance.

President Gawas noted the Affordable Housing Committee had not yet met. The parking Authority had met the previous night and they discussed permit losses due to the increased parking fees. The bus depot garage project was discussed at length.

ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go into closed session: Geevers
Second: Weiss

Ms. Sheehan read the closed session resolution into the record:

Whereas, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

Whereas, the Township Council of West Windsor Township has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public; and

Whereas, the regular meeting of this Township Council will reconvene; and

Whereas, the below stated subject matter shall be made available at such time as the issues discussed therein are resolved and its disclosure would not subvert any particular exception for convening a closed session.

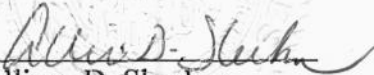
Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Township Council of the Township of West Windsor will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: to discuss Affordable Housing Litigation.

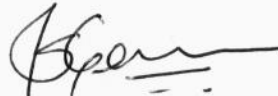
Meeting reconvened at: 10:05

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Mandel
Second: Charles
VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.


Allison D. Sheehan
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township


Sonia Gawas
Council President
West Windsor Township

List of Bills - (100011) CASH - OCEANFIRST - CURRENT DISBURSEMENTS CURRENT FUND

Meeting Date: 01/15/2026 For bills from 12/22/2025 to 01/14/2026

Check#	Vendor	Description	Account	PO Payment	Check Total
6390	1689 - A T & T 10556270A	PO 63562 2025 BLANKET- ACCTS #030-331-1957-001 & (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - TELEPHONE	185.54	185.54	185.54
6391	5760 - COMCAST 10518270A	PO 63218 2025 BLANKET- ACCT #8499-05-245-0102688 (2025) POLICE - TELEPHONE	151.84	151.84	151.84
6392	5760 - COMCAST 10504268A	PO 63241 2025 BLANKET- ACCT #8499-05-245-0287307, (2025) ADM - TECH/COMPUTER SRVCS	10.37	10.37	10.37
6393	4651 - DIRECT ENERGY BUSINESS 10556215A	PO 63511 2025 BLANKET- ELECTRICITY/NATURAL GAS, A (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - ELECTRIC/NATURAL GA	1,568.81	1,568.81	1,568.81
6394	731 - JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT 10556215A 10556277A	PO 63405 2025 BLANKET- ELECTRIC/GAS & STREET LIGH (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - ELECTRIC/NATURAL GA (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - STREET LIGHTING	3,042.65 5,242.28	8,284.93	8,284.93
6395	460 - MERCER CO. IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY 10558222A	PO 63201 2025 BLANKET- LANDFILL CHARGES (2025) REFUSE COLLECTION - LANDFILL CHARGES	59,622.91	59,622.91	59,622.91
6396	168 - MID JERSEY MUN. JOINT INS FUND	ASSESSMENT DUE 1/15/26- WORKER'S COMP	314,498.00	314,498.00	
6397	1801 - NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER 10556281A	PO 63487 2025 BLANKET- WATER SUPPLIED- POOL, ACCT (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - WATER	1,641.45	1,641.45	1,641.45
6398	1801 - NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER 10556281A	PO 63488 2025 BLANKET- WATER SUPPLIED- MAIN ACCOU (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - WATER	2,541.22	2,541.22	2,541.22
6399	1801 - NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER 10554281A	PO 63489 2025 BLANKET- FIRE HYDRANT FEES, ACCT #1 (2025) FIRE HYDRANT SERVICES - WATER	53,328.99	53,328.99	53,328.99
6400	5104 - PARKER MCCAY P.A. 10546223A	PO 63311 2025 BLANKET- PER RESOLUTION 2025-R022&R (2025) LEGAL - LEGAL FEES	14,388.89	14,388.89	14,388.89
6401	5104 - PARKER MCCAY P.A. 10546224A	PO 63392 2025 BLANKET- PER RESOLUTION 2025-R022, (2025) LEGAL - LEGAL FEES - TOWNSHIP COUNCIL	880.00	880.00	880.00
6402	5104 - PARKER MCCAY P.A. 10546228A	PO 63393 2025 BLANKET- LITIGATION, 1/1/25-12/31/2 (2025) LEGAL - LITIGATION	4,600.00	4,600.00	4,600.00
6403	2318 - PROVIDENT AGENCY INC.	2026 EMERGENCY SERVICE INVOICE 97496	13,377.00	13,377.00	
6404	379 - PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS 10556215A 10556277A	PO 63433 2025 BLANKET- ELECTRIC/GAS & STREET LIGH (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - ELECTRIC/NATURAL GA (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - STREET LIGHTING	39,375.72 32,818.75	72,194.47	72,194.47
6405	379 - PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS 10556215A	PO 63434 2025 BLANKET- POOL ELECTRIC/GAS, A/C #72 (2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - ELECTRIC/NATURAL GA	1,487.16	1,487.16	1,487.16
6406	2526 - RIGGINS INC. 10557307A	PO 63195 2025 BLANKET- DELIVERY OF DIESEL & UNLEA (2025) GASOLINE - DIESEL FUEL	5,476.40	9,662.41	

List of Bills - (100011) CASH - OCEANFIRST - CURRENT DISBURSEMENTS CURRENT FUND

Meeting Date: 01/15/2026 For bills from 12/22/2025 to 01/14/2026

Check#	Vendor	Description	Account	PO Payment	Check To
10557315A	(2025) GASOLINE - UNLEADED		4,186.01		9,662.4
6407	1591 - SCHEIDELER EXCAVATING CO. INC.	PO 64839 2025 BLANKET- SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES 11/1		10,000.00	
10541251A	(2025) SNOW REMOVAL - SERVICE/MAINT CONTRACTS		10,000.00		10,000.00
6408	549 - TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY	2025 QUARTERLY FEES- QTR ENDING 12/31/25	35,515.00	35,515.00	
6409	381 - VERIZON	PO 63165 2025 BLANKET- VARIOUS ACCOUNTS/TELEPHONE		1,516.68	
10556270A	(2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - TELEPHONE		1,516.68		1,516.68
6410	381 - VERIZON	PO 63482 2025 BLANKET- TELEPHONE USAGE A/C# 153-2		478.28	
10556270A	(2025) UTILITY EXPENSES - TELEPHONE		478.28		478.28
6411	1619 - VERIZON WIRELESS	PO 63220 2025 BLANKET- ACCT #420131698-0001, WIRE		844.50	
10518270A	(2025) POLICE - TELEPHONE		844.50		844.50
6412	2308 - WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NJ INC.	PO 63203 2025 BLANKET- ACCT #502-41214 SOLID WAST		77,072.08	
10558219A	(2025) REFUSE COLLECTION - REFUSE REMOVAL		77,072.08		77,072.08
6413	6126 - WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NJ INC.	PO 63204 2025 BLANKET- ACCT#502-41244 DUMPSTERS		2,350.09	
10558219A	(2025) REFUSE COLLECTION - REFUSE REMOVAL		2,350.09		2,350.
TOTAL					686,200.62
Total to be paid from Fund 10 CURRENT FUND		686,200.62			
		=====			
		686,200.62			

List of Bills - (120021) CASH - TRUST ACCOUNT - OCEANFIRST TRUST OTHER

Meeting Date: 01/15/2026 For bills from 12/22/2025 to 01/14/2026

Check#	Vendor	Description	Account	PO Payment	Check Total
1394	4134 - MORTON SALT	PO 63754 2025 BLANKET- PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT & SA		7,791.92	
	121407	STORM RECOVERY TRUST FUND - L158	7,791.92		7,791.92
1395	1591 - SCHEIDELER EXCAVATING CO. INC.	PO 65103 2026 BLANKET- SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES 11/1		35,787.50	
	121407	STORM RECOVERY TRUST FUND - L158	35,787.50		35,787.50

TOTAL

43,579.42

Total to be paid from Fund 12 TRUST OTHER

43,579.42

43,579.42

List of Bills - (120020) CASH - AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST - OCEANFIRST TRUST OTHER

Meeting Date: 01/15/2026 For bills from 12/22/2025 to 01/14/2026

Check#	Vendor	Description	Account	PO Payment	Check Tot
1074	6878 - WOODSTONE AT WEST WINDSOR LLC	2026 WEST WINDSOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE- 1/1	1,200.00	1,200.00	
TOTAL					1,200.00
Total to be paid from Fund 12 TRUST OTHER		1,200.00	=====		
		1,200.00			

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP
VOUCHERS TO BE APPROVED

January 15, 2026

PAYEES	FUND	ACCT. NO.	CHECK NO.	AMOUNT
<u>CURRENT FUND</u>				
MID JERSEY MUN. JOINT INS. FUND	CURRENT	10552290	6396	\$ 162,295.00
MID JERSEY MUN. JOINT INS. FUND	CURRENT	10552299	6396	\$ 152,203.00
PROVIDENT AGENCY INC.	CURRENT	10552299	6403	\$ 13,377.00
WEST WINDSOR PLAINSBORO SCHOOL	CURRENT	10450	WIRE	\$8,810,430.00
<u>TOTAL CURRENT FUND</u>				<u>\$9,138,305.00</u>
<u>OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND</u>				
TREASURER, STATE OF NJ		121530	WIRE	\$ 790.29
NJDEP TRUST FUND MGT	TRUST	121529	WIRE	<u>39,317.87</u>
<u>TOTAL OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND</u>				<u>40,108.16</u>