

MAY 12, 2025

Mayor Rick Adams called the regular meeting of the Township of Bass River Commission to order on May 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act were complied with as notice was published to the *Atlantic City Press* stating the time, date and place of this meeting.

The following Commission Members were in attendance: Commissioner Jane Allen, Deputy Mayor Louis Bourguignon and Mayor Rick Adams.

Mayor Adams led the salute to the flag.

Mayor Adams moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that the minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2025 be approved. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Mrs. Allen read the Court Report for March 2025 a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office for public inspection.

RESOLUTION #48-25

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #48-25, authorizing payment of claims in the amount of \$332,612.81 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Commission.

RESOLUTION #49-25

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE DUPLICATION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams, that Resolution #49-25, be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commissioners.

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RESOLUTION #50-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER 2025 YEAR MUNICIPAL BUDGET BY THE
INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND
APPROPRIATION FROM THE STATE OF NEW
JERSEY STORMWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #50-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #51-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER 2025 YEAR MUNICIPAL BUDGET BY THE
INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND
APPROPRIATION FROM THE STATE OF NEW
JERSEY RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #51-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #52-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL
CERTIFICATION OF THE 2024 MUNICIPAL AUDIT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #52-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #53-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE PLAN
SUBMITTED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

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Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #53-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #54-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, APPOINTING ADOLPH SICHERI AS
MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #54-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #55-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TURNOVER OF
UNCASHED COURT FUNDS**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #55-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #56-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, AUTHORIZING IN REM FORECLOSURE
PROCEEDINGS**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #56-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Solicitor Report: Ms. O'Connor stated the Township is almost complete this last round of the In-Rem Tax Foreclosure and she waiting for tax certificates back from Burlington County. Bass River Township received a property bid for 2 lots on Oswego Road. Block 103G Lot 1 (.46 acres) for \$90.00 and 103I Lot1(.2 acres) for \$75.00. This was opening bid listed on website. Solicitor stated its been on the market since 2018. She then presents the following resolution:

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RESOLUTION #57-25

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF
CERTAIN TOWNSHIP OWNED PROPERTIES
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 (A)**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that Resolution #57-25 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

She went to explain the Township is moving forward with Fish and Wildlife asking to remove the properties they want to purchase from the webpage. Mayor Adams asked how long they are on the market with a reply since 2018. Adjoining property owner from California is not interested in purchasing. Adams requested leaving the properties on the webpage until a formal offer is received. Solicitor O'Connor also announced that she will be looking into doing an ordinance moving the May election to November for the Township and all of the Commissioners were in favor of doing this because it is a cost savings to the town.

Mayor Adams stated Tim from the organization operating the railroad received a cease and assist from the Department of Community Affairs claiming they believe operation of the train is an amusement ride/park and needs inspections and approvals. Solicitor will write a letter hoping to resolve the misunderstanding, that it is volunteer.

Mayor Adams than thanked the wellness walkers, all the people who are buying the yard sale permits for Chase a local resident battling cancer and lastly the Public Works Department for turning the town green.

RESOLUTION #58-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC
MEETINGS ACT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Resolution #58-25, discussing Township employee duties and litigation, be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Mayor Adams moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that the meeting be opened to the public portion of the meeting at 7:20pm. It was so moved.

Marion Assur 106 N. Maple asked if November elections will be a problem with regular elections as she remembers confusion in the past.

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Mrs. Gleghorn said Municipal Elections are every 3 years and will just have an additional column while voting for general election, she believes it will be easier for the voters.

Evan Manersi 49 Ishmael-Bass River Buds- informed the commissioners that his plants won three (3) awards and thanked Bass River Township for all of their support for him and his business.

Jack McKernin 31 E. Greenbush saw the most recent article regarding a school tax increase of 32% and wanted to know how that will affect the Township taxes.

Mayor Adams invited residents to attend school board meetings for the best explanation. Karl Swanseen, BRT BOE President said the next scheduled meeting will be June 16th at 7pm. The School Business Administrator will be there and can explain in detail the increase, but for Bass River Township there was a 2% increase this year, in 2021 there was a higher increase than this year. He further went on to ask if anyone is interested in being involved with the Bass River School Board to please let him know

Pam Heinrichs West Road, stated she feels the article is miss leading and that the taxes themselves are not going up 32%, it sounds worse than it really is.

Commissioner Allen thanked Swanseen for attending tonight's meeting.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mr. Adams that the public portion be closed. It was so moved.

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mayor Adams that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**JENNY GLEGHORN, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

Approved:

**WILLIAM "RICK" ADAMS
MAYOR**