

June 5, 2023

Minutes of the public meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen held on June 5, 2023.

Mayor Jason F. Cilento called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Municipal Clerk William Robins read the Sunshine Statement and called the Roll.

Present: Jason Cilento, Trina Rios, Teresa Albertson, Jessica Dunne, Joseph Paltjon, Daniel Cole Sigmon and Harold VanDermark [Mrs. Albertson attended remotely.]

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Sigmon it was moved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of May 15, 2023.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

At this point, a Proclamation was read by Mayor Cilento “Celebrating June as Pride Month.”

Proclamation Celebrating Pride Month

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey is a community that values diversity and inclusion, and is committed to equal rights and opportunities for all its residents; and

WHEREAS, the theme for PRIDE Month is “Peace, Love, Revolution” recognizing those who have advocated for LGBTQ+ individual rights; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Dunellen recognizes the important contributions of its LGBTQ+ residents to the Borough’s and Nation’s history, culture, economy, and civic life; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the accomplishments of the LGBTQ+ community towards securing important rights and freedoms, often through struggle and adversity; and

WHEREAS, we remain vigilant against continued oppression and discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, we affirm our support for our LGBTQ+ residents and stand with them as we all strive to sustain a culture of hope, love,

understanding, and respect for one another as family-members, friends, and neighbors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, along with the Dunellen Borough Council, do hereby proclaim June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the Borough of Dunellen, and encourage all residents to celebrate in our community.

Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
June 5, 2023

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne it was moved to accept the following:

ORDINANCE 2023-13

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN

The following DUNELLEN SALARY ORDINANCE is being Introduced for first reading on June 5, 2023. It will be furthered considered for public hearing and adoption on June 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dunellen Borough Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, New Jersey. Copies of this ordinance have been posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board, and have been available at the Office of the Borough Clerk for any interested members of the public.

The following are base salaries, without longevity or benefits:

Step	Minimum	Maximum
11	\$120,000.00	\$190,000.00
10	\$75,000.00	\$150,000.00
9	\$60,000.00	\$90,000.00
8	\$20,000.00	\$70,000.00
7	\$40,000.00	\$65,000.00
6	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00
5	\$25,000.00	\$40,000.00
4	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00
3	\$8,000.00	\$25,000.00
2	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
1	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00

<u>Full-Time Positions</u>	<u>Step</u>
Chief of Police	11
Administrator/Clerk	10
Court Administrator	9

Human Resources Manager	9
Construction Manager	9
Tax Collector	9
DPW Supervisor	8
Recreation Director	8
Supervisor, Accounts & Payroll	8
Technical Assistant to the Construction Official	7
Administrative Assistant, Interdepartmental	7
Finance/Payroll Clerk	7
Deputy Municipal Clerk	6
Deputy Registrar	6
Deputy Court Administrator	6
Tax Office Assistant	6
Police Department Administrative Assistant	6
Violations Clerk, Municipal Court	6
Registrar	5
Clerk's Office Admin. Assistant	5

Part-Time Salary Positions

Municipal Attorney	9
Municipal Judge	7
Recreation Administrative Assistant	6
Construction Code Official	5
Chief Financial Officer	5
Public Works Manager	5
Tax Collector	4
Municipal Prosecutor	4
Tax Assessor	3
Sewer Inspector	3
Property Maintenance/Code Enforcement	3
Public Defender	2
Office of Emergency Management	2
Sub Code Official (Electrical, Fire, Plumbing)	2
Zoning Officer	2
Public Information Officer	2
Grant Writer	2
Planning Board Secretary	2
Planning Board Recording Secretary	2
Qualified Purchasing Agent	2
Sign Ordinance Enforcement Officer	1

Part Time – Hourly

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Sewer Inspector - Additional Hourly	\$30.00	\$48.00
Substitute Deputy Clerk (Court)	\$25.00	\$35.00
Planning Board Finance Clerk	\$25.00	\$35.00

Interpreter	\$20.00	\$30.00
Tax Assessor Assistant	\$20.00	\$30.00
Planning Board Assistant	\$20.00	\$30.00
Head School Crossing Guard	\$20.00	\$30.00
Acting Recreation Director	\$20.00	\$25.00
Recreation Administrative Assistant	\$20.00	\$25.00
Tax Clerk	\$20.00	\$25.00
Construction Office Assistant	\$20.00	\$25.00
Police Administrative Assistant	\$20.00	\$25.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$20.00	\$25.00
School Crossing Guard	\$18.00	\$25.00
Clerk's Administrative Assistant	\$18.00	\$25.00
Violations Clerk (Court)	\$18.00	\$25.00
Laborer	\$18.00	\$25.00
Janitor	\$18.00	\$25.00
Recreation Department part-time	\$15.00	\$20.00

Part-Time - Monthly/Meeting

Elected Officials

Mayor	\$5,000 annually
Council President	\$2,800 annually
Council Member	\$2,500 annually

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mr. VanDermark it was moved to accept the following:

ORDINANCE 2023-14

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, is being introduced for first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on June 5, 2023. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the borough Council Chambers, in the Borough on June 19, 2023. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of the full bond ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY,

APPROPRIATING \$650,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$619,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Purpose(s): Various road improvements, including but not limited to, milling and paving of various roads, including but not limited to, Center Street, Penfield Place, Oak Parkway, Columbia Street, Orange Street, Pearl Place, Jadach Place and Kennedy Court, and various additional road improvements to Borough roads, including, but not limited to, striping, sidewalks, catch basins, manholes, repairs and streetscape improvements, and further including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

Appropriation: \$650,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$619,000
Grants (if any) Appropriated: \$0
Section 20 Costs: \$100,000
Useful Life: 10 years

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

At this point, a presentation was made by the Stop Underage Drinking Students (SUDS) participants. Mayor Cilento congratulated the students, as did Council President Rios. Certificates were distributed.

Dave Morgan, Chaplain of the Dunellen Fire Department, spoke about the annual Memorial Service for Fire Department members and he thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers who have come in support the last couple of years. He gave photographs to the Mayor taken at the ceremony.

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #1

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The bills, as per the attached list, are hereby authorized for payment.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #2

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Whereas, applications for renewal of liquor licenses for the year 2022-2023 have been submitted, and

Whereas, no objections to said renewals have been filed, and

Whereas, the proper fees have been paid by all applicants.

Now therefore be it resolved that the following be granted renewals of their licenses for the year beginning July 1, 2022 and expiring June 30, 2023:

FSG F&B, LLC. -- 1203-33-011-007

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #3

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Whereas, by Resolution 06-20-2022: #9, the Borough of Dunellen entered into a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Piscataway for the milling and paving of certain sections of West Fourth Street, including striping and speed limit markings, at a cost not to exceed \$81,575.00; and

Whereas, the actual cost of the project is \$65,995.99.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen, that the Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Piscataway for the milling and paving of certain sections of West Fourth Street be amended to an amount not to exceed \$65,995.99. Funds for this Shared Services Agreement are to be taken from Account # C-04-22-008-000-601.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue a mobile food vendor license to the following establishment:

Hey Shave Ice & Fruit, LLC.
358 Broadway, 2nd Floor, Bayonne, NJ 07002

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #5

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen approve the attached settlements with Sumo Real Estate Holding, Inc., for property located at 324 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ, Block 32, Lot 25, regarding tax overpayments in 2019 and 2020.

Furthermore, Municipal Attorney John E. Bruder is authorized to execute the attached Stipulation of Settlement.

Mr. Bruder provide the background to this resolution. He and the Tax Assessor worked to a beneficial resolution with the property owner, Crown Bank. At the time of the revaluation, the property was valued high, partly because they could not gain entrance. The settlement terms avoid a trial. There is now a gradual lowering of the taxes in the form of credits rather than a payment for past paid taxes, which is advantageous to the borough.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mr. Sigmon it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #6

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the South Washington Avenue and New Market Improvements project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of Dunellen formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Council and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LTPF-2023-South Washington Ave and New Market-00184 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Dunellen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Council and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Dunellen and that their signature

constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Mayor Cilento noted that this is similar to a prior unsuccessful grant application, which might be granted now that there are some discretionary funds.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #7

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, K Hovnanian is a developer of property at 100 South Washington Avenue, Block 85, Lot 1.02, known at the Crossing at Dunellen ; and

WHEREAS, with the inception of the Annual Service Charge on November 1, 2022, K Hovnanian is no longer responsible for real estate taxes but instead is responsible for payment of the Minimum ASC to the extent that ASC receipts from unit owners are less than the Minimum ASC, per the Financial Agreement with the Borough of Dunellen dated July 13, 2017; and

WHEREAS, such payments were made in the 4th quarter of 2022 and the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2023, resulting in a refund for land taxes paid due to K Hovnanian; and

WHEREAS, the amount of refund for years 2022 and 2023 total \$38,978.24.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen, that \$38,978.24 be refunded to K Hovnanian, and that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel taxes from November 1, 2022 forward on this property.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Dr. Dunne it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #8

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Dunellen in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of Calendar Year 2023 in the sum of \$13,550.78, which is now available from the NJ State Solid Waste Administration FY 2023 Clean Communities Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$13,550.78 is hereby appropriated under the caption Solid Waste Administration – Clean Communities Grant.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #9

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The resignation of Rebecca Robles as Dunellen Municipal Prosecutor is accepted, effective June 13, 2023.

Mayor Cilento thanked Ms. Robles for her service.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #10

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Urging the Continued Swift Passage of S-330 which restores Energy Tax Receipts

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights of way; and

WHEREAS, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties, and other entities, the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, for years, though, State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of dedicated energy tax receipts to the State's General Fund further jeopardizes this critical property tax relief funding in future years; and

WHEREAS, by reducing Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Act (CMPTRA), which is also comprised of revenues that should be returned to municipalities, State Budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use of these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Senator Singleton and Senate President Scutari have introduced legislation (S-330) that will restore, over a five-year period, Energy Tax Receipts to municipalities.

WHEREAS, the total lack of revenue in the Dunellen municipal budgets since 2001 due to the reduction of the Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief is in excess of \$25,677,956.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen in the County of Middlesex urges the Legislature to swiftly pass this legislation and Governor Murphy sign the legislation prior to passage of the FY2024 State budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Dunellen's State Senator and Assemblypersons, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Governor Murphy, Senator John Bramnick, Assemblywoman Michele Matsikoudis, Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, Assemblywoman Linda Carter, Assemblyman James Kennedy, the New Jersey Conference of Mayors and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Mayor Cilento stated that this is in regard to energy tax receipts that once had gone to municipalities but has recently been withheld. The NJ Council of Mayors and others are encouraging the Legislature to restore the funding.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

Dr. Robins explained that the stormwater related materials (ordinances and documents) can be found on our website. All municipalities are encouraged to have the appropriate ordinances adopted and that they educate their residents and businesses on the importance of good stormwater management. He distributed the following document:

Stormwater Regulations
Presentation to the Dunellen Borough Council
June 5, 2023

Stormwater regulations and ordinances adopted by the Dunellen Borough Council can be found on the Dunellen Web Site: https://www.dunellen-nj.gov/government/forms_center/index.php#outer-177

They include the following items, with links to the full documents:

Stormwater Regulations, Ordinances, and Documents

Dunellen Borough Ordinances:

Stormwater Regulations--Waste Disposal, Illicit Connections, and Wildlife Feeding, Ordinance [2005-15](#)

Stormwater Management, Ordinance [2006-10](#)

Refuse and Roll-off Containers, Ordinance [2007-03](#)

Dumpsters, Ordinance [2010-06](#)

Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting, Ordinance [2010-07](#)

Flood Damage Prevention, Ordinance [2010-08](#)

Documents:

What is [Groundwater?](#)

Improving Water Quality and the Quality of [Life](#)

What is Nonpoint Source [Pollution?](#)

What's a [Watershed?](#)

Mosquito [Precautions](#)

For additional educational material on stormwater related matters, go to www.cleanwaternj.org

At this point, Scott Olsen, Chief Financial Officer, gave a brief disquisition on the topic of debt ceilings and how they relate to the borough's current situation.

<u>2023</u>	<u>Gross Debt</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Net Debt</u>
Local School District Debt	26,980,000.00	26,980,000.00	-
Sewer Utility Debt	1,888,345.20	1,888,345.20	-
General Debt	20,044,705.93	25,081.36	20,019,624.57
	<u>48,913,051.13</u>	<u>28,893,426.56</u>	<u>20,019,624.57</u>
Net Debt Equalized Valuation Basis per N.J.S.A. 40A:2-2			
(1) 2020	674,003,524.00		
(2) 2021	739,107,378.00		
(3) 2022	847,014,639.00		
Equalized Valuation, Average of (1), (2) and (3)	753,375,180.33	=	2.657%

The Borough's borrowing power under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-6 as Amended, at December 31, 2022 was as follows:

				<u>2023</u>	
3-1/2% of Equalized Valuation Basis Municipal Net Debt				26,368,131.31	
Remaining Borrowing Power				20,019,624.57	
				6,348,506.74	
2/4/23	SDS 1	Fire Station Supplemental Apj	4,275,000.00	4,275,000.00	Remaining Head room
		Sewer Improvements	0.00	Self Liquid 0.00	2,073,506.74
		Net Debt		<u>24,294,624.57</u>	3.225%
2/19/23	SDS 2	Acquisition of Property	904,500.00	<u>904,500.00</u>	1,169,006.74
		Net Debt		<u>25,199,124.57</u>	3.345%
6/19/23	SDS 3	2023 Mill & Pave Program	619,000.00		
		BAN Paydown	(226,200.00)		
		State of NJ - Lincoln Avenue	(770,399.69)		
		Net Debt		<u>(377,599.69)</u>	1,546,606.43
				<u>24,821,524.88</u>	3.295%
	SDS 4	Sewer Jet Vac Paydown	300,000.00	Self Liquid? 300,000.00	
			0.00	0.00	
				<u>25,121,524.88</u>	3.335%
					1,246,606.43
	SDS 5	Kline Place Roadway	500,000.00		
		Kline Place Sewer Paydown	600,000.00		
		Net Debt		<u>1,100,000.00</u>	
				<u>26,221,524.88</u>	3.481%
					146,606.43
	SDS 6	Strip Joint Cleanup Paydown	600,000.00	600,000.00	
			0.00	0.00	
		Net Debt		<u>26,821,524.88</u>	3.560%
					(453,393.57)

He explained that there are two ways for a municipality to fund large ticket items: a pay as you go or to bond for them (which is raising debt). As of each December 31st, municipalities must report their debt situation. This is reflected at the top of the page. The net debt is \$20,000,000. We are allowed to have 3% of our equalized valuation (\$26,000,000). Below that is the activity that has occurred so far in 2023. If you go through each line, you see that we have increased debt, but also got some grant reimbursements. So as of now we have \$24,821,524.88, or 3.29% . We have two additional projects, Kline Place and Sewer Jet Truck. So, if we subsequently adopt capital ordinances for these, this leaves \$146,606.43, 3.481%. This gives you an idea of our situation, though any grants or insurance proceeds that come in will reduce our outstanding debt and increase the percentage.

Dr. Robins asked if the FEMA reimbursement would lower our debt? It would not, as we did not incur any capital debt in financing those improvements.

Mayor Cilento noted that we are looking at some creative ways to lower our debt, such as financing through the MCIA.

Reports:

Mrs. Albertson: 1) congratulations and thank you to the Graduating SUDS members. It's been such a pleasure to watch you grow and develop into great leaders; 2) as we celebrate PRIDE Month I'd like to emphasize the importance of celebrating everyone all year long. Regardless of what they believe in, what they look like, what religion they are. They are all human beings and an important part of our community; 3) the next Open-Air Market is June 18th and we are having a Strawberry Festival; 4) American Legion Post 119 -- June 7th is the Freedom Cruise Car Show will be at the Legion from 5-8 pm. Hot dogs and Hamburgers will be available for purchase. The Legion is hosting Friday night dinners from 5pm until food runs out. This week they will be having ham, Mac n cheese, coleslaw and salad as well as dessert. This is open to the public. Donations are appreciated. There will be a Pig Roast on June 24th from 1 to 6 pm. \$30 for adults, age 15 - 20 \$15, 7- 14 \$10, 6 and under are free.

Mrs. Rios: 1) lots of exciting activities are coming up at the library! This Friday, June 9th, the Library and Recreation Department will be teaming up for an outdoor screening of *High School Musical 2* in Washington Park. On Saturday, June 10th, Dunellen's First Responders will be joining us in celebrating our Summer Reading Theme "All Together Now" with a "Touch A Truck" kickoff event at the library from 11am - 2pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore fire trucks, police vehicles, and more. There will be a live DJ, snacks, crafts and more! When you register for our summer reading program you'll receive a free tote bag from the library, and summer reading participants can earn prizes for reading and participating in Library Programs. Rutgers Science Explorer will host an Underwater Robots workshop for grades 6th through 8th on June 21st, 11 am-12:30 pm, registration is required. On June 23rd, there will be an after-hours Super Smash Brothers Tournament for individuals ages 13 and up, registration is required. On June 24th, we will host a PRIDE Party for all ages with music, crafts and more! Save the Date because on July 11th **Stage a Story will join us for a drama workshop based on the story of Miss Spiders Tea Party at 10:30 am for children ages 4-6 (registration required) and on July 26th the Turtleback Zoo will be visiting us at 2 pm with a variety of animal ambassadors. Visit the library in person or online for more information about these programs and more; 2) Board of Education's next meeting will be June 20th at 7:00 pm. Last day of school will be June 14th.

Graduation will be on June 14th; 3) the next Green Brook Flood Control Commission meeting will be virtual on June 7th at 7:30.

Mr. VanDermark: 1) Buildings and Grounds – HVAC service for the Field House and Borough Hall is scheduled for June 16th. New batteries and pads were installed on the defibrillator in the Senior Center. All fire extinguishers have been inspected on Borough properties; 2) Mayor’s Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Task Force – tomorrow morning at 7:30 am we will be holding our annual Walk, Bike and Roll to School. Students will be leaving from Columbia Park and St. John’s parking lot at 7:45 am. Anyone riding a bike, scooter or roller blades must wear a helmet.

Dr. Dunne: 1) Recreation -- Spring sports are coming to the end of their season. The Recreation Department would like to thank all the coaches for all their time and commitment to our programs! This spring has been our largest turnout in spring sports, and it could not have been done without you coaches! 2) on Monday, May 29th, we had our annual Memorial Day Parade. The Recreation Department would like to thank everyone who attended and participated in the Parade. Special thanks to the Memorial Day Committee who started planning this day in January. From the American Legion- Commander Shalonda Tanner, Bill Uhler, and Darell Storey, the VFW- Commander Gary Stoop, Jeff Gerber, and Bill Sutton, Officer Joe Dudley, Councilmember Joe Paltjon, Mayor Cilento, and Recreation Program Manager Julie Grof, and Recreation Director Alex Miller. The last three parades were wonderful! Great turnout in the parade and with our crowds....; 3) congratulations to Kelly Seader on being named GMC (Greater Middlesex County) Gold Division Coach of the Year in High School Tennis. Three years ago, the boy's tennis team was 0-14. This year they finished 10-6, which is a huge turnaround. Kelly helped start our Recreation Tennis program 4 years ago. This past year we had 40 children enrolled in the spring program for children in grades 3rd-8th (which was our max limit of players); 4) Jogging Club -- Jogging club is growing! This Sunday, June 11th, we will be participating in the Girls on the Run 5k in Somerville. We will be joining students from Faber School, several parents, and some of their coaches running with them. We will be meeting at 8 am at the registration tent. We encourage anyone interested to join. Registration is required, but the program is free; 5) Municipal Alliance -- will be having a leadership training on June 21st for new SUDS members, peer leaders & safety ambassadors. As you saw tonight, the graduating SUDS members were honored tonight and we thank them for their leadership and stewardship in our community; 6) Shade Tree Commission -- as always, if you are interested in having a tree planted, please contact the DSTC. The next meeting will be on June 14th at 7 pm in the Senior Center; 7) The Parking Authority will hold its next meeting on July 12th at 7 pm at the Parking Authority; 8) Dunellen Diversity & Inclusion Committee will be hosting Pride Trivia this Thursday at 8 pm at Maggie Murray’s. There will be giveaways and a special round focused on Pride Trivia to promote awareness. Please join us if you are able!

Mr. Sigmon: 1) DPW crew has been cleaning the downtown daily and all our Borough Properties & Parks.

- Lawn maintenance at all Borough properties and parks.
- Street sweeping as scheduled.
- Ball field maintenance to Columbia Park Fields, McCoy Park, and Gavornik.

- Installed a new sidewalk to the Police Monument.
- Installed new block edging for the Police Monument.
- Curbside leaf bag pick-up throughout the Borough, reminder leaf bag season is done for the spring, residents can always bring bags to the DPW yard all year round.
- Preparation to the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony: swept the Parade Route, set up barricades throughout the town, helped with traffic control.

Maintenance on two mowers, serviced one of the police vehicles that went to the Police Academy for a driving test.

Mr. Paltjon: 1) Police Department -- after the Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service last Monday there was the unveiling of the Police Memorial Monument. Thanks to all those for participating and for creating an everlasting way to always Remember and Honor those that Served and Sacrificed their Life to Serve and Protect; 2) PARSA -- Alex will be meeting with PARSA this Thursday June 8th to review and report for the sewer CCTV.

Mayor Cilento:

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony: I am very proud of the success of this year's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Over the last several years, the parade has grown and we continue to see an increase in community participation. Thank you to Alex Miller and the Parks and Recreation Commission, Julie Grof, Ptl. Joe Dudley, Councilman Joe Paltjon, the Dunellen American Legion Post 119, and the Dunellen Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5479 for your hard work on planning the event. Thank you to our Police Department, Fire Department, OEM/CERTS Team, Rescue Squad and DPW for your assistance in preparing the park and ensuring safety at the event. Thank you to all of those who spoke including the master of Ceremony, Bill Uhler, Father Alphonsus Kariuki, Commander Shalonda Tanner from the Dunellen American Legion Post 119, Commander Gary Stoop from the VFW Post 5479, Green Brook Mayor Jim Van Arsdale, and Pastor Roy Caryll. They all did a wonderful job. Also thank you to the Marine Corp League for the raffle salute, the Boy Scouts on the flag raising, Bugler Pete Williford for playing taps, Dunellen Madrigals for singing the National Anthem, the Imperial Brass Band for their beautiful music during the ceremony, Larry Booker playing *Amazing Grace* on the Bagpipes, and Assemblywoman Michele Matsikoudis for joining us along the parade route. Congratulations to the Grand Marshal John Yesalavich.

Dunellen Police Monument Dedication and Ceremony: I want to recognize Patrolman Joe Dudley and Alex Miller, as well as the DPW, for the hard work on getting the monument ready for the dedication and unveiling. The monument, the sidewalk and the rose bushes are all beautiful and give the park a classic look. It's a beautiful way to honor our former police officers who are no longer here with us. All the monuments will be given a similar look over the next few months.

The Middlesex County Department of Transportation: the Middlesex County Department of Transportation has completed its milling, paving, and striping of New Market Road.

Pulaski Street Culvert Project: this Middlesex County project will be like the South Madison Avenue Culvert replacement. The County just recently had a pre-construction meeting on Wednesday, May 24th, which means we are getting closer to the start of this project. We expect work to start this summer.

Center Street Mill and Pave (Shared Service with Piscataway): the Borough will need to have some concrete repair work on the Dunellen side of Center Street prior to the project. This work will include new ADA compliant sidewalks at the intersections and some curb replacement. We will also be installing a new sidewalk from the end of Pulaski to the Faber School sidewalk (this new sidewalk cost will be shared between the Borough and the School District). This sidewalk will be very helpful for the many people walking down the dead end of Pulaski to the back end of the school playground. The Center Street Mill and Pave Project will go from New Market to Levgar Street (Piscataway).

Road Improvements:

Middlesex County Mill & Pave Co-Op: the following streets will be part of the County Mill and Pave:

- Columbia Street
- Penfield Place (from New Market to South Washington) note: Penfield Place from South Washington to Maple, and Maple Avenue, will be part of NJAW water main, water service, and new fire hydrants replacement. This was originally scheduled for this year, but NJAW had to push it to 2024
- Oak Parkway (from New Market Road to Maple Avenue)
- Pearl Place
- Kennedy Court
- Jadach Drive

Similar to the Center Street project, we will need to update the ADA-compliant sidewalks, and replace damaged curbing.

- Preliminary Plans for Kline Place are being finalized for Borough review.
- Survey work is scheduled for this week for the Washington Avenue Lighting Project/Decorative Light Project funded from a Transit Village grant.
- The malfunctioning RRFB sign on Lincoln Avenue has not yet been repaired. We will close out the project once that work is done.
- The corrective work on South Madison that was requested by the NJDOT has been performed. We are finalizing the reimbursement documents for submission to the NJDOT.

Planning for the Future: the Borough's planning consultant, DMR Architects, presented the Master Plan Reexamination and Climate Resiliency Plan at the Council meeting on May 1. The presentation was given as a courtesy to elected officials and the public. These plans will be presented to the Dunellen Planning Board during an in-person special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, at 7 pm in Council Chambers at Borough Hall at 355 North Avenue. All

material is posted on the Borough website
at: https://www.dunellenj.gov/news_detail_T30_R49.php

Hometown Heroes Banners: there are more than 100 Dunellen Hometown Heroes banners hanging on the light posts in downtown Dunellen. Please visit the Dunellen Parks and Recreation Department's Facebook page to see a special project organized by Recreation Commission Chairman Jim Brennan. The project is called: A Tribute for Memorial Day - Sergeant Earle V. von Schondorf and Sergeant Charles T. Connolly. We offer our gratitude to Jim for organizing this project and to the families for sharing their touching stories. We would like to recognize Recreation Commission member Kelly Seader and Recreation Director Alex Miller for their efforts in establishing the Dunellen Hometown Heroes Banner program.

Rebuilding the Firehouse: a pre-construction meeting for the rebuilding of the Dunellen Firehouse was held on May 3. Representatives from the contractor H&S Mechanical and Contracting, the architect Alloy5, the Dunellen Fire Department, insurance agencies, Borough officials and Dunellen's Firehouse Construction Manager, Scott Brescher, were in attendance. Logistics were discussed in preparation for the rebuild. Contracts have been signed by all parties and a Notice to Proceed has been issued. Plans and permits are in the process of being reviewed by the Sub Codes. This should take about 2 weeks. The contractor is to provide to the Borough their proposed milestone dates so construction may commence.

Department Heads:

Homer Mosley, Office of Emergency Management, made the following report:

Dunellen Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
Report to the Municipal Council
June 5, 2023

OEM and CERT members continue to take FEMA and other courses to upgrade their skill sets to better serve the Borough during both planned and emergency events. For example, members took a 16-hour Threat and Hazard Assessment course, 16-hour Run, Hide, and Fight Active Shooter Survivor and Train the Trainer courses, and an assisting disabled residents in emergencies course.

Our designated Search and Rescue Coordinator, Chris Mueller, just completed a full day exercise with other emergency responders for search and rescue operations.

OEM/CERT members assisted the Police Department with pedestrian and vehicular safety and situational awareness during the Memorial Day Parade and festivities. They will be performing the same type of duties for the Dunellen High School Graduation.

OEM/CERT members manned a table at last month's Open Market and distributed Emergency Preparedness materials and spoke with Dunellen residents about the importance of having a personal and family emergency preparation plan.

OEM/CERT will be manning a table to distribute preparedness materials at the Library's "Touch a Truck" event this Saturday, June 10, 2023.

OEM/CERT acquired a larger trailer with additional emergency equipment from South Amboy. We also acquired 12 short range radios that can be used for emergency shelters and other operations.

Three members of our OEM/CERT Team just completed an 8-week Middlesex County Civilian Sheriff's Academy and will be graduating on June 21, 2023 at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville.

OEM is on track to receive another \$10,000 EMMA Grant for completing all the requirements for the Grant.

OEM used last year's grant money to purchase uniform and all-weather coats for the CERT members, a large TV monitor, a small monitor and workstation for the OEM Deputy, and two P25 handheld radios that tie directly into the Middlesex County Emergency Radio System.

OEM will meet the last remaining requirement for Fiscal Year 2022 grant performance period this Wednesday, June 7, 2023, when OEM will host the last bi-yearly LEMC (Local Emergency Management Committee) meeting.

OEM will be providing free AED/Stroke Recognition Training in the fall to residents after receiving a legal review of the activity by Borough Attorney John Bruder.

OEM and CERT are looking for additional volunteers to continue the progress and success of the Department.

Mayor Cilento reminded all that tomorrow is Primary Day, noting the two polling places at LMS and the Senior Center, and he thanked the poll workers for their work, and Dr. Robins and Lauren as Clerks overseeing the election.

Public Portion:

No one from the public spoke.

Mayor Cilento welcomes when people reach out to him, but he is making a public statement that when people contact him, they do so by name, address and other contact information. There is no way for him to appropriately address anyone as a resident if everything is anonymous. Your identity is then unknown and you could be a political hack or not even reside in this town, so please write your name and address underneath your signature if you are asking for something from his office. He says this with respect.

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

06-05-2023: #11

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Dunellen Borough Council Meeting of June 5, 2023 is adjourned.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

The YouTube presentation of this Council meeting can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOTMOPzQnGA>