

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2026
MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING NO. 4**

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex and the State of New Jersey was held on March 2, 2026, and was called to order by Mayor Guindi at 7:00 PM with the following Council Members in Attendance:

Mayor and Council Roll Call	Present	Absent	Excused Tardy
<i>Mayor Peter S. Guindi</i>	X		
<i>Councilwoman Sandra DaSilva</i>	X		
<i>Councilman Joseph Donato</i>	X		
<i>Councilman Hank Dziemian</i>	X		
<i>Councilman Nick Giannakopoulos</i>	X		
<i>Councilman James Gurchensky</i>	X		
<i>Council President Matt DeSantis</i>	X		

Also attending this meeting were Chief Financial Officer Joseph Zanga, Interim Business Administrator Mark Tinitigan, DPW Director Adriano Soares, First Assistant Chief Steve Drugos, Borough Attorney John DeLuca, and Borough Engineer Justin Cornell

IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 231 OF PUBLIC LAW OF 1975, NOTICE OF THIS MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BUILDING, 61 MAIN STREET, SOUTH RIVER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE HOME NEWS TRIBUNE ON JANUARY 7, 2026, POSTED ON THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BULLETIN BOARD, THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, THE FRONT DOOR OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BUILDING AT 61 MAIN STREET, SOUTH RIVER.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Guindi lead the salute to the Flag and a moment of silence.

PROCLAMATIONS, HONORS, AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

- Recycling Coordinator of the Year- Mayor Guindi presents the Proclamation to Donna Stoddard. James Polos appeared and spoke on Ms. Stoddard and commented on all her hard work.

Proclamation

Borough of South River

Honoring Donna Stoddard, Recycling Coordinator of the Year

WHEREAS, the Borough of South River recognizes the importance of environmental stewardship, sustainability, and responsible waste management in preserving the health, safety, and quality of life of our residents; and

WHEREAS, Donna Stoddard has demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and commitment in her role as Recycling Coordinator for the Borough of South River; and

WHEREAS, Donna's professionalism, work ethic, and dedication to public service reflect great credit upon herself, the Borough of South River, and the community she proudly serves; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her outstanding service and measurable contributions to environmental sustainability, Donna Stoddard has been honored with the prestigious Recycling Coordinator of the Year Award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River do hereby commend and congratulate

DONNA STODDARD

for being named Recycling Coordinator of the Year, and extend sincere appreciation for her continued dedication, leadership, and commitment to improving our community and protecting our environment for future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the Borough of South River to be affixed this 2nd day of March, 2026.

AGENDA SESSION

- Main Street Trees – Mayor Guindi speaks on removing the potted plants on Main Street and redoing them to make them more presentable.
- Discussion on Ordinances – CFO Joe Zanga and Borough Attorney John Deluca explain all ordinances on the agenda.

ORDINANCE-- SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE 2026-03

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS ROADS, APPROPRIATING \$950,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$253,500 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized as general improvements to be undertaken in and by the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Borough"). For the improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$950,000, said sum being inclusive of all appropriations heretofore made therefor, including grant funds expected to be received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) in the amount of \$582,753, a budget appropriation in the amount of \$100,000, and a down payment in the amount of \$13,747 for said purposes as required by the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq. The down payment is now available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in the Capital Improvement Fund of one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the costs of said improvements or purposes not provided for by the application of the down payment, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount not to exceed \$253,500, pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized to be undertaken consist of improvements to various roads within the Borough, including, but not limited to, Mercer Street, Lyons Street and Mitchell Avenue, together with all purposes necessary, incidental or apparent thereto, all as shown on and in accordance with plans, specifications or requisitions therefor on file with or through the Borough Chief Financial Officer, as finally approved by the governing body of the Borough.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for the improvements or purposes described in Section 3(a) hereof is \$253,500, as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3(a) hereof is \$950,000, which is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefor. The excess of the appropriation of \$950,000 over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor being the amount of said \$100,000 budget appropriation and \$13,747 down payment for said purposes, and said \$582,753 grant funds expected to be received from the NJDOT for said improvements to Mercer Street, Lyons Street and Mitchell Avenue.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer of the Borough, provided that no note shall mature later than one (1) year from its date. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-8. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer, who shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of such notes occurs, such report shall include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not a current expense and are improvements or purposes that the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness of the improvements or purposes, within the limitations of the Local Bond Law and taking into consideration the amount of the obligations authorized for said purposes, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is twenty (20) years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such Statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$253,500 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$190,000 for interest on said obligations, costs of issuing said obligations, engineering costs, legal fees and other items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included as part of the cost of said improvements and is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for said improvements.

(e) To the extent that moneys of the Borough are used to finance, on an interim basis, costs of said improvements or purposes, the Borough reasonably expects such costs to be paid or reimbursed with the proceeds of obligations issued pursuant hereto. This ordinance shall constitute a declaration of official intent for the purposes and within the meaning of Section 1.150-2(e) of the United States Treasury Regulations.

Section 6. The capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services is on file with the Borough Clerk and is available there for public inspection.

Section 7. Any grant or similar moneys from time to time received by the Borough for the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof, shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements within the

appropriation herein authorized or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are received and so used.

Section 8. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and, unless paid from other sources, the Borough shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

Section 9. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Council President DeSantis motioned to waive the full reading; seconded by Councilman Dziemian. All in Favor. The Clerk read Ordinance 2026-3 by title only. Mayor Guindi opened the floor for public hearing of Ordinance 2026-3 only.

Being no public came forth, Council President DeSantis motioned to close public hearing of said Ordinance; seconded by Councilman Giannakopoulos. All in Favor.

Adopted 3-2-26

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>	X		X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>		X	X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

ORDINANCE 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 22-18 THROUGH 22-18.12 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO ESTABLISH SEPARATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION/GREEN TEAM AND SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Borough of South River previously established a combined “Environmental Commission/Shade Tree Advisory Board/Green Team” pursuant to Chapter 22, Article IV, Section 22-18 of the Borough Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that separating the Environmental Commission/Green Team and Shade Tree Advisory Board functions into two distinct bodies will promote greater efficiency, focus, and effectiveness in carrying out their respective statutory and advisory responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission/Green Team should focus on sustainability initiatives, environmental planning, and advisory duties relating to environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, the Shade Tree Advisory Board should focus specifically on matters relating to municipal shade trees, tree preservation, and tree removal regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to preserve the existing membership structure, procedures, and administrative provisions for both bodies while assigning their functional powers appropriately; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council possesses the statutory authority to establish advisory boards to assist in governance and administration (N.J.S.A. 40:81-13); and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council possesses the statutory authority to prescribe penalties for violations of municipal ordinances (*see State v. Laurel Mills Sewerage Corp.*, 46 N.J. Super. 331 (App. Div. 1957)); and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Borough and its residents to reorganize these advisory functions to promote more efficient and specialized oversight of environmental and shade tree matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. REPEAL

Chapter 22, Article IV, Sections **22-18 through 22-18.12** of the Code of the Borough of South River are hereby repealed in their entirety.

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION/GREEN TEAM

Chapter 22 is amended to add a new § 22-18 Environmental Commission/Green Team, to read as follows:

§ 22-18. Environmental Commission/Green Team

There shall be a commission known as the "Environmental Commission/Green Team of the Borough of South River." In this Code, the Environmental Commission/Green Team of the Borough of South River will sometimes be referred to as the "Environmental Commission."

§ 22-18.1. Membership.

The membership of the Environmental Commission/Green Team of the Borough of South River shall be comprised as follows:

- a. Regular Members. There shall be seven (7) regular members. Regular members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each regular member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each regular member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. At least one (1) regular member shall be a member of the Land Use Board.
 4. The term of a regular member shall not be longer than three (3) years, beginning on January 1 of a given calendar year and ending on December 31 of the third year following.
 - i. Upon the inaugural appointment of regular members to the Environmental Commission, the Mayor shall designate three (3) regular members to serve an initial term of three (3) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of two (2) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of one (1) year, such that no more than three (3) regular members' terms shall terminate by function of this ordinance in the same calendar year.
 - ii. All subsequent appointments of regular members to the Environmental Commission, after the inaugural appointment, shall be for a term of three (3) years.

5. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Environmental Commission until a new Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Chairperson must be a regular member.
 6. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Vice Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Environmental Commission in the Chairperson's absence or disqualification, until a new Vice Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Vice Chairperson must be a regular member.
- b. Alternate Members. There shall be two (2) alternate members. Alternate members shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each alternate member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each alternate member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. At the time of appointment, each alternate member shall be designated as either "Alternate Member 1" or "Alternate Member 2."
 4. Alternate members may participate in discussions on all matters before the Environmental Commission but may only vote on such matters in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. In the case of only one regular member's absence or disqualification, Alternate Member 1 shall be entitled to vote, unless Alternate Member 1 is also absent or disqualified, in which case Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote. In the case of more than one regular member's absence or disqualification, both Alternate Member 1 and Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote.
- c. Junior Members. There shall be two (2) junior members. Junior members shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each junior member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each junior member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. Each junior member shall be under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of appointment.
 4. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote.
 5. At the discretion of the Chairperson, Junior members may participate in discussions on matters before the Environmental Commission.
- d. Advisory Consultants. There shall be two (2) advisory consultants. Advisory consultants shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each advisory consultant shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. There shall not be any residency requirement for an advisory consultant.
 3. Advisory consultants shall not be entitled to vote.
 4. Advisory consultants may participate in discussions on all matters before the Environmental Commission.
 5. For purposes of this Section, advisory consultants shall be deemed "members" of the Environmental Commission.
- e. Vacancy. Upon a vacancy on the Environmental Commission, other than by expiration of a term, the Mayor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

- f. Removal From Office. The governing body may remove any member of the Environmental Commission for cause, after written charges have been served upon the member and after a hearing on the charges, at which time the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel, which expense shall be borne by the member.

§ 22-18.2. Powers.

The Environmental Commission/Green Team shall have the following powers:

- a. To conduct research into the use and possible use of open land areas of the Borough.
- b. To coordinate the activities of all unofficial bodies which are organized for purposes similar to that of the Commission.
- c. To advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purpose.
- d. To keep and maintain an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps or other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas.
- e. To recommend to the Land Use Board plans and programs for inclusion in a municipal Master Plan and the development and use of such open land areas.
- f. To study and make recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resources management, air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance and marine resources protection.
- g. Subject to the approval of the governing body, to acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of South River, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease, for any of its purposes, and to administer the same for such purposes, subject to the terms of the conveyance or gift. Such an acquisition may be to acquire the fee or any lesser interest, development right, easement, including conservation easement, covenant or other contractual right (including a conveyance on conditions or with limitations or reversions), as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect, limit the future use of or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas in the Borough.
- h. The Environmental Commission/Green Team shall have advisory power concerning the regulation and control over the planting, care and control of shade and ornamental trees and shrubberies upon or in highways, parks or parkways (except county parks and parkways) in the Borough of South River.
- i. The Environmental Commission/Green Team shall not have the power of condemnation or eminent domain. It shall not have power to pledge the credit of the Borough or to create any debt against it or in any manner act as the agent of the Borough.

§ 22-18.3. Green Team Duties and Purpose.

The Environmental Commission/Green Team's duties, as they concern the Green Team, shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Managing South River's participation in the Sustainable Jersey program;
- b. Encouraging the Borough staff to pursue sustainable practices where possible and implement the Borough Council's environmental goals;
- c. At the recommendation of the Borough Council, work with the existing groups within the Borough whose actions affect environmental issues so as to eliminate duplication and assure that important tasks are covered;
- d. Provide suggestions for further research and action by the Borough Council;

- e. At the direction of the Borough Council, provide advice and suggestions to the Borough Board of Adjustment and the Borough Historic Preservation Commission to assure that environmental issues are considered in their deliberations and action;
- f. Manage and organize various ad hoc environmental groups within the Borough;
- g. Solicit and evaluate environmental ideas and suggestions from the community; and
- h. Promote the causes of sustainability within the Borough.

§ 22-18.4. Volunteers.

The Environmental Commission/Green Team shall select Borough volunteers to work on Green Team projects. The names of the volunteers shall periodically be submitted to the Borough Council.

§ 22-18.5. Records of meetings.

- a. The Commission shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- b. The Commission shall establish rules and regulations to govern its meetings and activities, not inconsistent with this article.

§ 22-18.6. Expenses and Employees.

The governing body may appropriate such funds as it deems necessary for the expenses incurred by the Environmental Commission/Green Team and may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may from time to time require. Such appointments shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to the Environmental Commission by the governing body.

§ 22-18.7. Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in Chapter 1, Article I, General Penalty, as the court deems necessary and just.

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Chapter 22 is amended to add a new § 22-19 Shade Tree Advisory Board, to read as follows:

§ 22-19. Shade Tree Advisory Board

There shall be an advisory board known as the "Shade Tree Advisory Board of the Borough of South River." In this Section, the Shade Tree Advisory Board of the Borough of South River will sometimes be referred to as the "Board."

§ 22-19.1. Membership.

The membership of the Shade Tree Advisory Board of the Borough of South River shall be comprised as follows:

- a. Regular Members. There shall be seven (7) regular members. Regular members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - 1. Each regular member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 - 2. Each regular member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 - 3. At least one (1) regular member shall be a member of the Land Use Board.

4. The term of a regular member shall not be longer than three (3) years, beginning on January 1 of a given calendar year and ending on December 31 of the third year following.
 - i. Upon the inaugural appointment of regular members to the Shade Tree Advisory Board, the Mayor shall designate three (3) regular members to serve an initial term of three (3) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of two (2) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of one (1) year, such that no more than three (3) regular members' terms shall terminate by function of this ordinance in the same calendar year.
 - ii. All subsequent appointments of regular members to the Shade Tree Advisory Board, after the inaugural appointment, shall be for a term of three (3) years.
5. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Shade Tree Advisory Board until a new Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Chairperson must be a regular member.
6. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Vice Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Shade Tree Advisory Board in the Chairperson's absence or disqualification, until a new Vice Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Vice Chairperson must be a regular member.
- b. Alternate Members. There shall be two (2) alternate members. Alternate members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each alternate member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each alternate member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. At the time of appointment, each alternate member shall be designated as either "Alternate Member 1" or "Alternate Member 2."
 4. Alternate members may participate in discussions on all matters before the Shade Tree Advisory Board but may only vote on such matters in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. In the case of only one regular member's absence or disqualification, Alternate Member 1 shall be entitled to vote, unless Alternate Member 1 is also absent or disqualified, in which case Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote. In the case of more than one regular member's absence or disqualification, both Alternate Member 1 and Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote.
- c. Junior Members. There shall be two (2) junior members. Junior members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each junior member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each junior member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. Each junior member shall be under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of appointment.
 4. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote.
 5. At the discretion of the Chairperson, Junior members may participate in discussions on matters before the Shade Tree Advisory Board.
- d. Advisory Consultants. There shall be two (2) advisory consultants. Advisory consultants shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each advisory consultant shall be appointed by the Mayor.

2. There shall not be any residency requirement for an advisory consultant.
 3. Advisory consultants shall not be entitled to vote.
 4. Advisory consultants may participate in discussions on all matters before the Shade Tree Advisory Board.
 5. For purposes of this Section, advisory consultants shall be deemed "members" of the Shade Tree Advisory Board.
- e. Vacancy. Upon a vacancy on the Shade Tree Advisory Board, other than by expiration of a term, the Mayor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.
 - f. Removal From Office. The governing body may remove any member of the Shade Tree Advisory Board for cause, after written charges have been served upon the member and after a hearing on the charges, at which time the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel, which expense shall be borne by the member.

§ 22-19.2. Powers and Duties.

The Shade Tree Advisory Board shall have the following powers and duties regarding tree management:

- a. To review all applications for the removal of shade trees on public property;
- b. To make recommendations to the Borough Council regarding tree removal requests;
- c. To develop and maintain standards for tree planting, maintenance, and removal;
- d. To oversee the Borough's tree replacement program;
- e. To conduct periodic inspections of public shade trees;
- f. To advise property owners on proper tree care and maintenance;
- g. To coordinate with utility companies regarding tree trimming and removal.

§ 22-19.3. Tree removal/application.

There shall be a Shade Tree Removal Application.

- a. No shade tree on Borough property shall be removed without an application submitted to the Borough.
- b. The Borough shall provide for the necessary application form to be issued to any property owner of the Borough of South River who wishes to remove any shade tree within a Borough right-of-way.
- c. The Board shall make a recommendation on the type of shade tree planting which would be allowed within the rights-of-way of the Borough if the property owner requests a replacement.
- d. An application fee of \$25 shall be paid by the applicant at the time of application to defray costs in the processing of the application.

§ 22-19.4. Volunteers.

The Shade Tree Advisory Board shall select Borough volunteers to work on shade tree projects. The names of the volunteers shall periodically be submitted to the Borough Council.

§ 22-19.5. Records of meetings.

- a. The Shade Tree Advisory Board shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- b. The Shade Tree Advisory Board shall establish rules and regulations to govern its meetings and activities, not inconsistent with this article.

§ 22-19.6. Expenses and Employees.

The governing body may appropriate such funds as it deems necessary for the expenses incurred by the Shade Tree Advisory Board and may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may from time to time require. Such appointments shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to the Shade Tree Advisory Board by the governing body.

§ 22-19.7. Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in Chapter 1, Article I, General Penalty, as the court deems necessary and just.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any provision of this Ordinance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way. The court making such determination shall have the power to modify any provision to the minimum extent necessary to make it valid and enforceable. If the court does not exercise such power, the parties agree to replace the invalid or unenforceable provision with a valid and enforceable provision that achieves, to the extent possible, the economic, business, and regulatory purposes of the invalid or unenforceable provision.

SECTION 5. REPEALER

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. Nothing herein is intended to repeal or abrogate any existing Ordinance or resolution that is not in conflict with this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

Whenever the requirements or provisions of this Ordinance are in conflict with the requirements or provisions of any other lawfully adopted Ordinance, law, rule, or regulation of the State of New Jersey, the more restrictive requirements shall apply.

SECTION 7. INTERPRETATION

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be construed as broadly as possible to effectuate the purposes set forth herein. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South River, the terms of this Ordinance shall govern.

SECTION 8. CODIFICATION

This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the Borough of South River as though codified and set forth fully herein. The Borough Clerk shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

Councilman Giannakopoulos motioned to waive the full reading; seconded by Council President DeSantis. All in Favor. The Clerk read Ordinance 2026-4 by title only. Mayor Guindi opened the floor for public hearing of Ordinance 2026-4 only.

Emily Grasso, 13 Darrow St, speaks on separating the Environmental Commission and the Green Team and Shade Tree.

Being no public came forth, Councilman Gurchensky motioned to close public hearing of said Ordinance; seconded by Councilman Dziemian. All in Favor.

No one makes a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-4. Mayor Guindi states Ordinance 2026-4 will not be adopted

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY

The Borough Clerk read Ordinance 2026-5 by title only.

ORDINANCE 2026-05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, CHAPTER 289, ARTICLE II, SECTION 289-5, TITLED “REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE,” TO PROHIBIT THE PLACEMENT, DEPOSIT, OR DUMPING OF ANY MATERIAL, OBJECT, SNOW, ICE, DEBRIS, OR OTHER SUBSTANCE IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:65-12, the governing body of the municipality is expressly authorized to make, amend, repeal, and enforce ordinances to compel the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks and gutters within the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River find it necessary and desirable to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety, prevent obstruction of public ways, and promote the general welfare by prohibiting the placement of snow, ice, and other materials in the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the current provisions of Section 289-5 of the Borough Code contain a reserved subsection B that may be repealed and replaced with the prohibition set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council deem this amendment to be in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and visitors of the Borough of South River;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CODE

The Code of the Borough of South River, Chapter 289, Article II, Section 289-5, Subsection B is hereby amended to read as follows:

- B. Except as expressly permitted under Subsection A of this Section for the lawful treatment of ice upon sidewalks where removal is impractical, no person shall move, place, deposit, dump, or cause to be placed any material, object, snow, ice, debris, or other substance within the public right-of-way, including all public sidewalks and roadways.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

March 2, 2026 Council Regular Meeting Minutes- APPROVED 3/23/26

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. Nothing herein is intended to repeal or abrogate any existing ordinance or resolution that is not in conflict with this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

Whenever the requirements or provisions of this Ordinance are in conflict with the requirements or provisions of any other lawfully adopted Ordinance, law, rule, or regulation of the State of New Jersey, the more restrictive requirements shall apply.

SECTION 5. CODIFICATION

This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the Borough of South River as though codified and set forth fully herein. The Borough Clerk shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

Introduced 3-2-26

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

The Borough Clerk read Ordinance 2026-6 by title only.

ORDINANCE 2026-06

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 22-18 THROUGH 22-18.12 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO ESTABLISH A SEPARATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AND SHADE TREE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:56A-1 et seq. authorizes the establishment of Environmental Commissions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:64-1 et seq. authorizes the establishment of Shade Tree Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of South River previously established a combined "Environmental Commission/Shade Tree Advisory Board/Green Team" pursuant to Chapter 22, Article IV, Section 22-18 of the Borough Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that separating the functions of the previously combined Environmental Commission/Green Team/Shade Tree Advisory Board into two distinct bodies will promote greater efficiency, focus, and effectiveness in carrying out their respective statutory and advisory responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, one body, the "Environmental Commission" should be constituted in accordance with the Environmental Commission Act, N.J.S.A. 40:56A-1 et seq., and focus on sustainability initiatives, environmental planning, and advisory duties relating to environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission should be further formalized and designated as the Borough's Green Team to facilitate its participation in the Sustainable Jersey program; and

WHEREAS, the other body, the "Shade Tree Commission" should be constituted in accordance with the Shade Tree Commission Statutes, N.J.S.A. 40:64-1 et seq., and focus specifically on matters relating to municipal shade trees, tree preservation, and tree removal regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to modify the existing membership structure, procedures, and administrative provisions for both bodies so that each body conforms to the applicable statutory provisions of Title 40; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Borough and its residents to reorganize these advisory functions to promote more efficient and specialized oversight of environmental and shade tree matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. REPEAL

Chapter 22, Article IV, Sections **22-18 through 22-18.12** of the Code of the Borough of South River are hereby repealed in their entirety.

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Chapter 22 is amended to add a new § 22-18 Environmental Commission, to read as follows:

§ 22-18. Environmental Commission

There shall be a commission known as the "Environmental Commission of the Borough of South River." In this Code, the Environmental Commission of the Borough of South River will sometimes be referred to as the "Environmental Commission" and sometimes be referred to as the "Green Team."

§ 22-18.1. Membership.

The membership of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of South River shall be comprised as follows:

- g. Regular Members.** There shall be seven (7) regular members. Regular members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - 1.** Each regular member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 - 2.** Each regular member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 - 3.** At least one (1) regular member shall be a member of the Land Use Board.

4. The term of a regular member shall not be longer than three (3) years, beginning on January 1 of a given calendar year and ending on December 31 of the third year following.
 - i. Upon the inaugural appointment of regular members to the Environmental Commission, the Mayor shall designate three (3) regular members to serve an initial term of three (3) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of two (2) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of one (1) year, such that no more than three (3) regular members' terms shall terminate by function of this ordinance in the same calendar year.
 - ii. All subsequent appointments of regular members to the Environmental Commission, after the inaugural appointment, shall be for a term of three (3) years.
- h. Alternate Members. There shall be two (2) alternate members. Alternate members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each alternate member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each alternate member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. At the time of appointment, each alternate member shall be designated as either "Alternate Member 1" or "Alternate Member 2."
 4. Alternate members may participate in discussions on all matters before the Environmental Commission but may only vote on such matters in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. In the case of only one regular member's absence or disqualification, Alternate Member 1 shall be entitled to vote, unless Alternate Member 1 is also absent or disqualified, in which case Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote. In the case of more than one regular member's absence or disqualification, both Alternate Member 1 and Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote.
- i. Junior Members. There shall be two (2) junior members. Junior members shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each junior member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each junior member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. Each junior member shall be under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of appointment.
 4. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote.
 5. At the discretion of the Chairperson, Junior members may participate in discussions on matters before the Environmental Commission.
- j. Advisory Consultants. There shall be two (2) advisory consultants. Advisory consultants shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. Each advisory consultant shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. There shall not be any residency requirement for an advisory consultant.
 3. Advisory consultants shall not be entitled to vote.
 4. Advisory consultants may participate in discussions on all matters before the Environmental Commission.
 5. For purposes of this Section, advisory consultants shall be deemed "members" of the Environmental Commission.

- k. Officers. There shall be two (2) officers of the Environmental Commission, known as the "Chairperson" and the "Vice Chairperson."
 - 1. Prior to the first meeting of each calendar year, the Mayor shall designate and appoint one regular member to serve as the Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Environmental Commission until a successor Chairperson is designated the following calendar year.
 - 2. Prior to the first meeting of each calendar year, the Mayor shall designate and appoint one regular member to serve as the Vice Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Environmental Commission in the Chairperson's absence or disqualification, until a successor Vice Chairperson is designated the following calendar year.
- l. Vacancy. Upon a vacancy on the Environmental Commission, other than by expiration of a term, the Mayor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- m. Removal From Office. The governing body may remove any member of the Environmental Commission for cause, after written charges have been served upon the member and after a hearing on the charges, at which time the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel, which expense shall be borne by the member.

§ 22-18.2. Powers.

The Environmental Commission shall have the following powers:

- j. To conduct research into the use and possible use of open land areas of the Borough.
- k. To coordinate the activities of all unofficial bodies which are organized for purposes similar to that of the Commission.
- l. To advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purpose.
- m. To keep and maintain an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps or other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas.
- n. To recommend to the Land Use Board plans and programs for inclusion in a municipal Master Plan and the development and use of such open land areas.
- o. To study and make recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resources management, air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance and marine resources protection.
- p. Subject to the approval of the governing body, to acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of South River, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease, for any of its purposes, and to administer the same for such purposes, subject to the terms of the conveyance or gift. Such an acquisition may be to acquire the fee or any lesser interest, development right, easement, including conservation easement, covenant or other contractual right (including a conveyance on conditions or with limitations or reversions), as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect, limit the future use of or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas in the Borough.
- q. The Environmental Commission shall not have the power of condemnation or eminent domain. It shall not have power to pledge the credit of the Borough or to create any debt against it or in any manner act as the agent of the Borough.

§ 22-18.3. Green Team Duties and Purpose.

The Environmental Commission's duties, as they concern the Green Team, shall include but not be limited to:

- i. Managing South River's participation in the Sustainable Jersey program;

- j. Encouraging the Borough staff to pursue sustainable practices where possible and implement the Borough Council's environmental goals;
- k. At the recommendation of the Borough Council, work with the existing groups within the Borough whose actions affect environmental issues so as to eliminate duplication and assure that important tasks are covered;
- l. Provide suggestions for further research and action by the Borough Council;
- m. At the direction of the Borough Council, provide advice and suggestions to the Borough Board of Adjustment and the Borough Historic Preservation Commission to assure that environmental issues are considered in their deliberations and action;
- n. Manage and organize various ad hoc environmental groups within the Borough;
- o. Solicit and evaluate environmental ideas and suggestions from the community; and
- p. Promote the causes of sustainability within the Borough.

§ 22-18.4. Volunteers.

The Environmental Commission shall select Borough volunteers to work on Environmental Commission and Green Team projects. The names of the volunteers shall periodically be submitted to the Borough Council.

§ 22-18.5. Records of meetings.

- c. The Environmental Commission shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- d. The Environmental Commission shall establish rules and regulations to govern its meetings and activities, not inconsistent with this article.

§ 22-18.6. Expenses and Employees.

The governing body may appropriate such funds as it deems necessary for the expenses incurred by the Environmental Commission and may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may from time to time require. Such appointments shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to the Environmental Commission by the governing body.

§ 22-18.7. Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in Chapter 1, Article I, General Penalty, as the court deems necessary and just.

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Chapter 22 is amended to add a new § 22-19 Shade Tree Commission, to read as follows:

§ 22-19. Shade Tree Commission

There shall be a commission known as the "Shade Tree Commission of the Borough of South River." In this Section, the Shade Tree Commission of the Borough of South River will sometimes be referred to as the "Shade Tree Commission" or the "Commission."

§ 22-19.1. Membership.

The membership of the Shade Tree Commission of the Borough of South River shall be comprised as follows:

- g. Regular Members.** There shall be seven (7) regular members. Regular members shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each regular member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each regular member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. The term of a regular member shall not be longer than three (3) years, beginning on January 1 of a given calendar year and ending on December 31 of the third year following.
 - i. Upon the inaugural appointment of regular members to the Shade Tree Commission, the Mayor shall designate three (3) regular members to serve an initial term of three (3) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of two (2) years, two (2) regular members to serve an initial term of one (1) year, such that no more than three (3) regular members' terms shall terminate by function of this ordinance in the same calendar year.
 - ii. All subsequent appointments of regular members to the Shade Tree Commission, after the inaugural appointment, shall be for a term of three (3) years.
 4. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Shade Tree Commission until a new Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Chairperson must be a regular member.
 5. The regular members, at the first meeting of each calendar year, shall elect by a majority vote a Vice Chairperson, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the Shade Tree Commission in the Chairperson's absence or disqualification, until a new Vice Chairperson is elected the following calendar year. The Vice Chairperson must be a regular member.
- h. Alternate Members.** There shall be two (2) alternate members. Alternate members shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each alternate member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each alternate member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. At the time of appointment, each alternate member shall be designated as either "Alternate Member 1" or "Alternate Member 2."
 4. Alternate members may participate in discussions on all matters before the Shade Tree Commission but may only vote on such matters in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. In the case of only one regular member's absence or disqualification, Alternate Member 1 shall be entitled to vote, unless Alternate Member 1 is also absent or disqualified, in which case Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote. In the case of more than one regular member's absence or disqualification, both Alternate Member 1 and Alternate Member 2 shall be entitled to vote.
- i. Junior Members.** There shall be two (2) junior members. Junior members shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each junior member shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. Each junior member shall be a resident of the Borough.
 3. Each junior member shall be under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of appointment.
 4. Junior members shall not be entitled to vote.

5. At the discretion of the Chairperson, Junior members may participate in discussions on matters before the Shade Tree Commission.
- j. Advisory Consultants. There shall be two (2) advisory consultants. Advisory consultants shall be subject to the following requirements:
1. Each advisory consultant shall be appointed by the Mayor.
 2. There shall not be any residency requirement for an advisory consultant.
 3. Advisory consultants shall not be entitled to vote.
 4. Advisory consultants may participate in discussions on all matters before the Shade Tree Commission.
 5. For purposes of this Section, advisory consultants shall be deemed "members" of the Shade Tree Commission.
- k. Vacancy. Upon a vacancy on the Shade Tree Commission, other than by expiration of a term, the Mayor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- l. Removal From Office. The governing body may remove any member of the Shade Tree Commission for cause, after written charges have been served upon the member and after a hearing on the charges, at which time the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel, which expense shall be borne by the member.

§ 22-19.2. Powers and Duties.

The Shade Tree Commission shall have the following powers and duties regarding tree management:

- h. To review all applications for the removal of shade trees on public property;
- i. To make recommendations to the Borough Council regarding tree removal requests;
- j. To develop and maintain standards for tree planting, maintenance, and removal;
- k. To oversee the Borough's tree replacement program;
- l. To conduct periodic inspections of public shade trees;
- m. To advise property owners on proper tree care and maintenance;
- n. To coordinate with utility companies regarding tree trimming and removal.

§ 22-19.3. Tree removal/application.

There shall be a Shade Tree Removal Application.

- e. No shade tree on Borough property shall be removed without prior approval of the Borough upon submission of an application.
- f. The Borough shall provide for the necessary application form to be issued to any property owner of the Borough of South River who wishes to remove any shade tree within a Borough right-of-way.
- g. The Commission shall make a recommendation on the type of shade tree planting which would be allowed within the rights-of-way of the Borough if the property owner requests a replacement.
- h. An application fee of \$25 shall be paid by the applicant at the time of application to defray costs in the processing of the application.

§ 22-19.4. Volunteers.

The Shade Tree Commission shall select Borough volunteers to work on shade tree projects. The names of the volunteers shall periodically be submitted to the Borough Council.

§ 22-19.5. Records of meetings.

- c. The Shade Tree Commission shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- d. The Shade Tree Commission shall establish rules and regulations to govern its meetings and activities, not inconsistent with this article.

§ 22-19.6. Expenses and Employees.

The governing body may appropriate such funds as it deems necessary for the expenses incurred by the Shade Tree Commission and may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may from time to time require. Such appointments shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to the Shade Tree Commission by the governing body.

§ 22-19.7. Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in Chapter 1, Article I, General Penalty, as the court deems necessary and just.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 5. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. Nothing herein is intended to repeal or abrogate any existing ordinance or resolution that is not in conflict with this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

Whenever the requirements or provisions of this Ordinance are in conflict with the requirements or provisions of any other lawfully adopted Ordinance, law, rule, or regulation of the State of New Jersey, the more restrictive requirements shall apply.

SECTION 7. CODIFICATION

This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the Borough of South River as though codified and set forth fully herein. The Borough Clerk shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

Introduced 3-2-26

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			

Councilman Dziemian			X			
Councilman Giannakopoulos		X	X			
Councilman Gurchensky			X			
Council President DeSantis	X		X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

The Borough Clerk read Ordinance 2026-7 by title only.

ORDINANCE 2026-7

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, CHAPTER 155, TITLED "FEES," AT SECTION 155.19.1, SUBSECTION S, TO REQUIRE A SECURITY DEPOSIT FOR RESERVATIONS TO USE GREKOSKI PARK BASEBALL FIELD

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:61-1 et seq., municipalities are authorized to acquire, maintain, regulate and control parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities and to adopt rules and regulations governing the use thereof; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.56, municipalities are authorized to establish and collect reasonable fees and charges for the use of municipal facilities and services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of South River owns and maintains Grekoski Park Baseball Field, a turf field, as a public recreational facility for the benefit of Borough residents; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council previously adopted Ordinance 2026-02 amending Chapter 155 of the Borough Code, titled "Fees," to establish and revise recreation program and park fees, including athletic field use fees; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council recognize that Grekoski Park Baseball Field is a specialized athletic surface requiring significant public investment, ongoing maintenance, inspection, and repair to preserve its safe and functional condition, and that its use by non-Borough-sponsored sports teams, leagues, associations, entities, and individuals may result in wear and tear, damage, additional clean-up, policy violations, or unpaid balances that impose financial burdens upon the Borough and its taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council find that amending § 155.19.1 of the Borough Code to require a refundable security deposit for non-Borough-sponsored users of the Grekoski Park Baseball Field is in the best interests of the Borough and serves a legitimate public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CODE

The Code of the Borough of South River, Chapter 155, titled "Fees," at Section 155.19.1, Subsection S, is hereby amended to read as follows:

S. Athletic field use fees:

- (1) When any sports team or league seeks to reserve the use of a Borough athletic field, it shall be charged a fee for the use as set forth below:

- a. Grass Fields:
 - i. \$25 per two-hour increment for resident teams or Non-Profit organizations;
 - ii. \$50 per two-hour increment for non-resident or For-Profit organizations.
 - b. Grekoski Park Baseball Field:
 - i. \$150 per two-hour increment for resident teams or Non-Profit organizations;
 - ii. \$200 per two-hour increment for non-resident or For-Profit organizations.
 - iii. Refundable Security Deposit. In addition to the incremental usage fees for Grekoski Park Baseball Field, any non-Borough-sponsored sports team or league seeking to make one or more reservations to use this field shall be required to deposit funds with the Borough as follows:
 - \$250 for one (1) to five (5) reservations;
 - \$500 for six (6) to ten (10) reservations;
 - \$1,000 for eleven (11) or more reservations.

Such funds shall be held by the Borough and shall be used for any clean-up, maintenance, repair, or payment in satisfaction necessitated by any wear and tear beyond ordinary use, damage, policy violation, or other unpaid balances arising from the sports team or league's use of the field. No later than thirty (30) days following a final inspection of the field by the Borough Parks & Recreation Department or its designee, after completion of any such clean-up, maintenance, repair, or payment in satisfaction, any remaining balance in the sports team or league's security deposit shall be returned to said sports team or league.

Nothing herein shall limit the Borough's right to pursue additional legal remedies in the event the security deposit is insufficient to cover the full extent of damages or unpaid obligations.
- (2) All fees and deposits will be collected up front, based on the amount of field time reserved, at the beginning of each season.
 - (3) If there are any dates paid for and not used, due to rainouts or other cancellations, said fees shall be refunded in a reasonable time following the end of the sports season.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. Nothing herein is intended to repeal or abrogate any existing ordinance or resolution that is not in conflict with this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

Whenever the requirements or provisions of this Ordinance are in conflict with the requirements or provisions of any other lawfully adopted Ordinance, law, rule, or regulation of the State of New Jersey, the more restrictive requirements shall apply.

SECTION 5. CODIFICATION

This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the Borough of South River as though codified and set forth fully herein. The Borough Clerk shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as required by law.

Introduced 3-2-26

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>		X	X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

DEPARTMENTAL/PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

Borough Engineer Justin Cornell

- **NJDOT FY 2023 Local Aid Program and NJDOT FY 2024 Local Aid Program**
 - The borough received a \$681,405.00 grant Leonardine Ave. from the OBT to Grand Ave., Prentice Ave., from Willet Ave. to Sheldon Ave., & Beryl St. from Cleveland Ave. to Wilcox.
 - The NJDOT has awarded the Borough a grant in the amount of \$606,980.00 for the Improvements to Darrow Street from Virginia Street to Bright Street, Dailey Street from Ferris Street to John Street and John Street from Colfax Street to George Street.
 - The contractor has completed our office's punch list. We have received minor punchlist items from the NJDOT that the contractor will address prior to project closeout.
- **NJDOT FY 2023 Local Transportation Projects Grant**
 - The Borough received a \$575,000 grant for the improvements to Albourne Street from Ferris Street to Seppi Avenue, Franklin Street from Wilson Avenue to Pulawski Avenue and Olchaskey Avenue from Kamm Avenue to Prentice Avenue.
 - The bid opening took place on February 18, 2026 at 10:00 am. Crossroad Paving submitted the lowest apparent bid.
- **NJDOT FY 2025 Local Aid Program**
 - The Borough received a \$506,913 grant for the following roads:
 - Prentice Avenue from Willett Avenue to Sheldon Avenue;
 - Tice Avenue from the Old Bridge Turnpike to David Street;
 - Cleveland Avenue from Virginia Street to Terminus.
 - The project design is complete and being submitted to the NJDOT for approval to proceed to the bid phase

- **2025 Electrical Substation Maintenance**
 - The project was approved for award in the amount of \$131,540.00 to RESA Service, LLC of Farmingdale, New Jersey. Sign contracts were submitted to the Borough.
 - A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for the end of January. Work is expected to begin in early spring.
- **NJDOT FY 2026 Local Aid Program**
 - The Borough received a \$582,753.00 grant for the following roads:
 - Mercer Street from Willett Avenue to Johnson Place.
 - Lyons Street from Sunset Street to Frandsen Avenue.
 - Mitchell Avenue from Old Bridge Turnpike to Garden Street.
 - Our office submitted a proposal to prepare the design work.

Chief Financial Officer Joseph Zanga

- No report

DPW Director Adriano Soares

- DPW will be starting potholes. The process will take a couple of months to complete

Fire Chief Scott Wolf

- There have been 75 calls so far for 2026. 35 calls in February
- 2 members will be starting fire school
- The budget meeting has gone well
- There will be a Mother's Day flower sale

Borough Clerk Alyssa Hager

- No report

Borough Attorney John Deluca

- No report

Interim Business Administrator Mark Tinitigan

- Dispatch has moved back to police headquarters. Everything has been updated. Thank you, Mr. Sewcanski, for letting dispatch use the OEM facility
- Still in need of SLEO 1
- Congrats to Donna Stoddard for her achievement
- South River is the 3rd safest town to live

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Gurchensky

- No report

Councilwoman DaSilva

- The Free Rabies Clinic will be on 3/28 at 9 Ivan Way. Dogs will be from 12-2 and cats from 2- 2:30. Licenses will be sold there
- TNR is collecting donations
- The Foodbank will be open two times a week through March.

Council President DeSantis

- Congrats Donna on her achievement
- Zumba is now open on Monday and Wednesday from 6-7 pm

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- Recreation will be adding Chess
- 3/21 is the Easter Egg Hunt at 4 pm. 3/28 will be the rain date.
- The next Recreation meeting will be on 3/9
- Speaks on the budget committee

Councilman Giannakopoulos

- The next Shade Tree meeting will be on 3/12
- The next EDC meeting will be on 3/18
- Thank you DPW for their hard work during the recent snowstorm

Councilman Donato

- Congrats to Donna Stoddard for her achievement
- Speaks on the budget committee

Councilman Dziemian

- Speaks on the Teachers of the Year at the BOE
- There will be more budget meetings
- Speaks on Frost on the Pumpkin

Mayor Guindi

- No report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Guindi opened the floor for Public Comment.

Barry Brill, 20 Monticello Way, speaks on the Colin Drive closure

Emily Grasso, 13 Darrow St, speaks on Main Street trees

Shari Garretson, 156 Kamm Ave, speaks on the artificial turf at Grekoski Park

Jim Hutchison, 38 Virginia Ave, thanks everyone involved in the snow removal. Resolutions 2026-79/86/87. Speaks on having more time to speak during the council meetings.

Being that no one else came forward for public comment, Mayor Guindi requested motion to close. Councilman Gurchensky motioned to close; seconded by Council President DeSantis. All in Favor.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

- None

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS 2026-95 TO 2026-105

WHEREAS RESOLUTION 2025-01 AUTHORIZES THE BOROUGH COUNCIL TO UTILIZE A CONSENT AGENDA TO ADOPT VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS OF A ROUTINE AND NONCONTROVERSIAL NATURE AT ONE TIME. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT THE BELOW LISTED RESOLUTIONS ARE HEREBY ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IN WHOLE AS IF THE SAME WERE INDIVIDUALLY ACTED UPON.

The Borough Clerk read the resolution titles on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION 2026-95

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPOINTMENT IN THE OFFICE ON AGING DEPARTMENT

I, Peter S. Guindi, Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council of the Borough of South River, do hereby appoint the following person listed below to the position in the Office on Aging Department:

Exercise Instructor to be paid at the rate of \$50.00 per class:

Nancy Fuccile
Steffanie Gallante

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-96

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE 2026 HCD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROPOSAL TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Citizens Advisory Committee on Housing and Community Development met on February 18, 2026, and has recommended that the Borough's 2026 funding allocation from the Housing and Community Development Block Grant, approximately in the amount of \$300,000.00, be made as follows:

- To apply for \$100,000.00 for repaving roads within the Target Areas.
- To apply for \$100,000.00 for curb ramp improvements, including updating crosswalks with flashing lights within the Target Areas.
- To apply for \$100,000.00 for the pedestrian sidewalks and guiderail improvements along Lower Hillside Avenue near the apartment complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River that the Borough Engineer and other appropriate officials prepare and submit the aforesaid project proposals to the Middlesex County Public Housing Agency.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-97
RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO CME ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO
IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS ROADWAYS

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that CME Associates is authorized to perform professional engineering services related to Improvements to Various Roadways including Mercer Street, Lyons Street, and Mitchell Avenue, as outlined in the Borough Engineer's letter dated December 8, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$138,700.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has certified the availability of funds in account C-06-26-003-201, subject to the Estoppel period of Bond Ordinance 2026-03.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

CERTIFICATE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I, **JOSEPH ZANGA**, Chief Financial Officer for the Borough of South River, do hereby certify that adequate funds are available for a contract with CME Associates for engineering services related to 2024 Improvements to Various Roadways in an amount not to exceed \$138,700.00. The funds for this contract are available in Account C-06-26-003-201, subject to the Estoppel period of Bond Ordinance 2026-03.

JOSEPH ZANGA, Chief Financial Officer
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-98

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION FOR THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ENHANCED RECYCLING GRANT SUBMISSION

WHEREAS, The County of Middlesex in continuing to recognize the importance of recycling and the role that the individual municipalities play in conjunction with the County towards achieving an exemplary recycling rate has proposed to provide grant monies to municipalities through the 2026 Recycling Enhancement Grant (REG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the 2026 REG Program is to provide grant funding to qualifying municipalities for the purchase of recycling bins for use in municipal parks in order to enhance local recycling efforts; and

WHEREAS, It appears to be in the best interest of the Borough of South River and its citizens to apply for this grant;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River that the Recycling Coordinator, Donna M. Stoddard and Director of Public Works, Adriano Soares are hereby authorized to submit the attached application for consideration of a grant to the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-99

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF 2026 SPRING RECREATION DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

I, Peter S. Guindi, Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council of the Borough of South River, do hereby appoint the following to positions for the 2026 Spring Recreation Department Employees effective as of March 2, 2026.

Volleyball Instructors:

Malcom Cumberbatch

\$50.00/class

Jade Cruz

\$20.00/class

Jenelle Gonzales Dolores

\$20.00/class

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-100

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
DESIGNEES**

I, Peter S. Guindi, Mayor of the Borough of South River, with the advice and consent of the Council of South River, do hereby appoint the following as the Housing and Community Development Committee Designees for the term of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026:

Joseph Zanga
Justin Cornell

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk

March 2, 2026 Council Regular Meeting Minutes- APPROVED 3/23/26

RESOLUTION 2026-101
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT AWARD FOR THE VARIOUS ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO
CROSSROADS PAVING COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$678,726.00

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of South River in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, had previously authorized and directed the Borough Clerk to advertise for receipt of sealed bids for Various Roadway Improvements to Franklin Street, Olchaskey Avenue, and Albourne Street in accordance with specifications approved and filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk; and

WHEREAS, said bids were received on February 18, 2026 and opened and read aloud in public and an examination thereof shows that Crossroads Paving Company of Newark, NJ was the apparent low bidder thereon with a bid of \$678,726.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has noted that the bid of the apparent low bidder contained no material departures from the bidding documents; and

WHEREAS, the award of this contract be and is hereby subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has certified the availability of funds in account C-06-24-026-103.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of South River in the County of Middlesex, the State of New Jersey, that the above recited bid be and the same is hereby accepted and the appropriate officials are authorized to sign a contract with Crossroads Paving Company of Newark, NJ, when all required bid documents are received.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of the Borough be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute all instruments necessary to complete the above stated transaction.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-102
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF FIRE SUBCODE, CONSTRUCTION, AND ZONING OFFICIAL

I, Peter S. Guindi, Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council of the Borough of South River, do hereby make the following appointments and stipends to Dave Wroblewski:

Fire Subcode – \$3,000, effective 1/17/26-1/16/30
Construction Official – \$5,000, effective 1/17/26-1/16/30
Zoning Official – \$3,000

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-103
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BILLS AND CLAIMS LIST

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex and the State of New Jersey that all bills, claims and statements against the Borough, in the total amount of \$1,245,525.62 and previously paid claims in the amount of \$1,376,604.46 listing attached, have been duly itemized, audited, approved and signed by the proper officers of the Borough, be and the same are hereby ordered paid.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 2026-104

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A N EMERGENCY CONTRACT AWARD TO JOE’S HEATING, LLC FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF TWO (2) FAILED ROOF-TOP HEATING UNITS AT THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

WHEREAS the Borough of South River has suffered a complete failure of the heating system at the Municipal Complex, causing disturbance in the day-to-day operations of the Borough

WHEREAS Borough officials have determined that two (2) rooftop heating and air conditioning units have catastrophically failed, and need replacement in a timely and emergent manner, and

WHEREAS these emergency repairs will consist of the following:

- Removal of the failed units utilizing a crane
- Replacement of two (2) heating and air conditioning rooftop units
- Installation of curb adapters
- Necessary ductwork to facilitate installation
- Necessary plumbing and electrical work to facilitate installation

WHEREAS the cost of this emergency service will not exceed \$50,000.00, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that an emergency contract will be issued to Joe’s Heating LLC, 68 Federal Road, Monroe, NJ 08831, with funds certified in account 6-01-44-901-219 by the Chief Financial Officer not to exceed \$50,000.00.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-105

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER

I, Peter S. Guindi, Mayor of the Borough of South River, with the advice and consent of the Council of South River, do hereby appoint the following as members of the Board of Health:

Robyn Prasek
Regina Sweeney, Alt 1

Term: 3/2/2026 – 12/31/2026 (unexpired term)
Term: 3/2/2026 – 12/31/2027 (unexpired term)

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of authorization to approve the foregoing resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of South River on March 2, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

**Council President DeSantis abstains from voting on purchase order 26-00542

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS (For the Good and Welfare of the Borough)

Councilwoman DaSilva

- Thank you to DPW, Fire Department, and Police Department during the snowstorm

Councilman Gurchensky

- Thank you to all public safety officers
- Congrats to Donna Stoddard for her achievement
- Please be careful and patient with the potholes

Councilman Giannakopoulos

- Thank you to OEM and DPW with the snow

Councilman Dziemian

- Thank you to OEM
- RIP to Howie King

Councilman Donato

- No report

Council President DeSantis

- Thank you to DPW for their hard work

Mayor Guindi

- Speaks on the meter project and the electric bills

- Speaks on the health insurance increase
- Speaks on scooters and E-bikes
- Congrats to Donna Stoddard on her achievement
- Speaks on the snowstorm and potholes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2026-106 **WHEREAS**, Section 8 of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 permits the exclusion of the general public from a meeting of the Governing Body under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River are of the opinion such circumstances presently exist.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River in the County of Middlesex of the State of New Jersey, that the public be excluded upon the hereinafter specific subject matter and that such subject matter to be so discussed is as follows:

- Litigation
- Property Acquisition

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such record of the above discussion will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required. The Borough Council of the Borough of South River may or may not take formal action at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

Adjourn to Executive Session at 8:07 pm

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

Reconvene to Public Session at 8:33 pm

COUNCIL	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Councilwoman DaSilva</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Donato</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Dziemian</i>		X	X			
<i>Councilman Giannakopoulos</i>			X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business; Mayor Guindi requested motion to adjourn. Councilman Gurchensky motioned to adjourn; seconded by Council President DeSantis. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Hager

Alyssa Hager, RMC

March 2, 2026 Council Regular Meeting Minutes- APPROVED 3/23/26

Borough Clerk