

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2026
MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING NO. 5**

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 23, 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 Interim Business Administrator Mark Tinitigan, DPW Director Adriano Soares, Fire Chief Scott Wolf, 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

- VREEL Presentation – Dante Bell, founder of VREEL, speaks on the how VREEL will help the 380 businesses in South River.

AGENDA SESSION

- Discussion on Ordinances –Borough Attorney John Deluca and BA Mark Tinitigan explain the ordinances on the agenda.

ORDINANCE– SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING

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

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.

Council President DeSantis motioned to waive the full reading; seconded by Councilman Giannakopoulos. All in Favor. The Clerk read Ordinance 2026-5 by title only. Mayor Guindi opened the floor for public hearing of Ordinance 2026-5 only.

Being no public came forth, Councilman Gurchensky motioned to close public hearing of said Ordinance; seconded by Councilman Dziemian. All in Favor. Council President DeSantis is in favor of this ordinance, especially after the recent snow storms. Councilman Donato would like to know for the people who leave their cars out in the street, where would that snow go, and Mayor Guindi states it will need to go on the homeowners property.

Adopted 3-23-26

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

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:

March 23, 2026 Council Regular Meeting Minutes- APPROVED 4/13/26

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:

- 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.
- 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. 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.
- f. 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.
- g. 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:

- 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 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:

- 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 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.

- a. The Environmental Commission shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- b. 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:

- 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. 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.
- 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 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 Shade Tree 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 Shade Tree Commission.
 5. For purposes of this Section, advisory consultants shall be deemed "members" of the Shade Tree Commission.
- e. 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.
- f. 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:

- 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 prior approval of the Borough upon submission of an application.
- 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 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.
- 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 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.

- a. The Shade Tree Commission shall keep records of meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the governing body.
- b. 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.

Council President DeSantis motioned to waive the full reading; seconded by Councilman Gurchensky. All in Favor. The Clerk read Ordinance 2026-6 by title only. Mayor Guindi opened the floor for public hearing of Ordinance 2026-6 only.

Lisa Byrne, 11 Bissett Place, would like to know why this needs to be put in place, and Mayor Guindi answers. Mrs. Byrne states the committee does not have the manpower to be separated and Mayor Guindi answers.

Emily Grasso, 13 Darrow Street, has the same concerns as Mrs. Byrne and questions how the two boards will be staffed.

Being no public came forth, Councilman Gurchensky motioned to close public hearing of said Ordinance; seconded by Councilman Dziemian. All in Favor. Councilman Giannakopoulos states South River will be following the state statute of having the two boards separate. It will not be an Advisory Board; it will be a Commission and will be able to enforce tree ordinances. Council President DeSantis asks Borough Attorney DeLuca questions if we can go back to the combined board, and Borough Attorney states he would need to look into this.

Adopted 3-23-26

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	X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

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.

Council President DeSantis motioned to waive the full reading; seconded by Councilman Gurchensky. All in Favor. The Clerk read Ordinance 2026-7 by title only. Mayor Guindi opened the floor for public hearing of Ordinance 2026-7 only.

Being no public came forth, Councilman Gurchensky motioned to close public hearing of said Ordinance; seconded by Councilman Dziemian. All in Favor. Councilman Giannakopoulos would like clarification on the ordinance and Council President DeSantis explains the deposit process and usage fees. This is for an outside entity, not for any league in South River.

Adopted 3-23-26

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	X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			X			
<i>Council President DeSantis</i>	X		X			

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

ORDINANCE– FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY

The Borough Clerk read Ordinance 2026-8 by title only

ORDINANCE 2026-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, SO AS TO AMEND CHAPTER 193 ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”

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

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CODE

Chapter 193 of the Borough Code of the Borough of South River, titled "Vehicles and Traffic," at Section 193-39, titled, "Schedule X, Loading Zones," is hereby amended so as to modify the increase the area of the loading zone for the following location:

[Additions are shown thusly and deletions ~~thusly~~.]

Name of Street	Side	Hours	Location
Marks Place	West	<u>7 a.m. – 5 p.m.</u>	From a point 130 feet north of its intersection of Jackson Street to a point ~~110~~ <u>85</u> feet north thereof

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

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This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication or as soon thereafter as permitted by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on March 23rd, 2026, and will be considered for second reading and final passage at the regular meeting of said Governing Body to be held on the 13th day of April, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this matter can be reached, at the Council Chamber of the Criminal Justice Building located at 61 Main Street, South River, New Jersey, and/or virtually via Zoom meeting code 826 6082 9597: password: 000000 at which time all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning this ordinance.

Introduced 3-23-26

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	X			
<i>Councilman Gurchensky</i>			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 has been approved by the NJDOT 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 took place at the end of January. Work is expected to begin in the 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.
 - The project has been authorized, and design work has begun.

DPW Director Adriano Soares

- DPW will be closed on April 3rd.
- The paper shredd event will be on April 25th at the DPW yard from 9 am to 12 pm. It is open to all residents and businesses in town.
- Potholes are still being filled. Please be patient.

Fire Chief Scott Wolf

- Our maintenance program is starting now with DPW for all the apparatus to be serviced.
- A little over 100 calls so far this year.

Borough Attorney John Deluca

- No report

Interim Business Administrator Mark Tinitigan

- Police are still looking for school crossing guards. Applications can be picked up at Borough Hall.
- Provides an update on the water meter replacement project. The project is 85% complete. There are still 423 accounts remaining. Out of the 423, there are 283 accounts that have not reached out or have not responded to the borough. Out of the 423, there are 140 accounts that have various plumbing issues.
- Meter Tech has some open appointments scheduled for Good Friday. If interested, please call 833-505-5412.
- Provides an update on the new meter company.

Mayor Guindi questions the bridge lights and BA Tinitigan answers. The lights are operated by JCP&L. The borough has reached out numerous times. The issue is the wiring, and the borough is still waiting to hear from the company. Councilman Gurchensky speaks on certain roads that have been paved. PSE&G was down at John Street for a gas leak and put a temporary patch on the road, will they be down later in the spring to repair it and BA Tinitigan answers.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Gurchensky

- OOA will have their schedule out and posted online.

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. The late fee for licensing will be waived until 4/1
- The Food Bank at 98 Jackson Street is still open twice a month until June. Please visit the borough website for more information
- The library is offering a lot of programs for adults and children. Please check the website.

Council President DeSantis

- Registration is open for spring yoga. Classes are Tuesdays from 3/31-5/19 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
- Spring sports activities will be starting in the next few weeks which will include t-ball, baseball, softball, and flag football.
- A chess program will be added which will start in May
- The next Recreation meeting will be on 5/19 at 6 pm

Councilman Giannakopoulos

- The EDC is working on a Farmers Market that will be starting in September. It will be on Sundays between 11 am to 3 pm at the Obert Street parking lot. If you want to get involved, the next EDC meeting will be on 4/15 at 7 pm
- The next Shade Tree meeting is 4/9 at 6:30 at 48 Washington Street. The committee is still looking for members.

Councilman Donato

- No report

Councilman Dziemian

- Preschool enrollment is still open for full day. There is no enrollment fee for 3 or 4 year olds. The registration flyer is located on the website. Please call 908-613-8305 to enroll.
- The budget committee is finalizing the budget soon
- The Frost on the Pumpkin is underway and meetings are scheduled
- On March 12th, 4 new police officers were sworn in. Congrats to them

Mayor Guindi

- No report

PUBLIC COMMENT- Consent Resolutions Only (5 min per speaker)

Mayor Guindi opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

- Land Use Board – Carlos Cerqueira, Alt 2

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS 2026-107 TO 2026-117

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 2026-107

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REQUISITION OF FUNDS FOR PAYMENT TO THE CUSTODIAN OF THE SCHOOL MONIES

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable Statutes of the State of New Jersey, the Local School District is required to requisition funds for Operating Expense and Debt Service Expense from the Borough; and

WHEREAS, a requisition dated March 3, 2026 has been received from the Local School District for the following amount:

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CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSE:	\$1,612,331.00
RESTORED FUNDS:	0.00
DEBT SERVICE EXPENSE:	<u>\$137,300.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,749,631.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South River that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to draw the above stated amount from the proper accounts and pay to the Custodian of the School Monies the amount so drawn pursuant to the applicable Statutes of the State of New Jersey by April 3, 2026.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-108
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS WATER METER REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, the governing body has received a Change Order request #2 from the Borough Engineer for the project known as Water Meter Replacement, which work is being undertaken by Core and Main LP; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Water Utility Engineer has advised in a letter dated March 9, 2026, that the Change Order request will provide for integration of the billing software with Sensus analytics which results in an increase to the original contract amount of \$8,595.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South River that Change Order #2 is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has certified the availability of funds in account W-07-24-010-101.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-109
RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO CME ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
RELATED TO EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN AND RISK AND RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT

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 Emergency Response Plan and Risk and Resilience Assessment, as outlined in the Borough Engineer's letter dated February 3, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$29,932.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough has certified the availability of funds in account 6-02-55-502-205.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

ORDINANCE 2026-110

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT AWARD TO VARIOUS VENDORS FOR THE SNOW REMOVAL

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WHEREAS, the Borough of South River has suffered from hazard weather conditions from several severe winter storms, and

WHEREAS, Borough Officials have determined that to alleviate safety issues, various outside contractors were needed to remove snow throughout the Borough,

WHEREAS, the following vendors provided emergency snow removal:

- S Brothers, Inc. \$35,625.00
- Capital Contracting Group, LLC \$19,340.50
- FCF First Choice Framing Corp. \$34,200.00
- Atlantic Salt, Inc. \$30,849.50

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that an emergency contract will be issued to various vendors with funds certified in account 6-01-26-290-209 and 6-01-26-290-216 by the Chief Financial Officer

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 23, 2026.

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-111

RESOLUTION TO REJECT ALL BID SUBMITTALS FOR BID #26-01 UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUSHING PROGRAM BID

WHEREAS the Borough of South River publicly advertised in a fair and open manner consistent with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* for bids for the Unidirectional Flushing Program

WHEREAS the Borough received one (1) submittal in response to a public opening on March 17, 2026, at 10:30 am, and

WHEREAS, upon examination by the review committee, it became apparent that the one bid received was non-responsive, under N.J.S.A 40A:11-23,

WHEREAS, according to Local Public Contracts Law N.J.A.C 5:34-1.2, *et seq.*, requires the rejection of submittals due to the bid being deemed non-responsive,

WHEREAS it is the recommendation of the review committee to reject all submittals and conduct a new public procurement for the Unidirectional Flushing Program that addresses the needs of the township,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that it has determined that all bids submitted for Unidirectional Flushing Program under bid #26-01 are hereby rejected per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2 *et seq*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon revision of specifications, the Qualified Purchasing Agent is authorized to commence the procurement of the Unidirectional Flushing Program under NJSA statutes and Local Public Contracts Law.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

**RESOLUTION 2026-112
PROPERTY TAX REFUND**

WHEREAS, The following properties listed below applied for tax exempt status under the provisions for a totally disabled veteran status in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30et seq, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor reviewed and approved the applications for the 2026 tax year for below residents, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector is recommending the cancellation of the 2nd quarter of 2026 and refund of 2nd quarter for Block 164 Lot 14.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector recommends cancellation of the 2nd quarters of 2026 in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Property Location:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
164	14	Kurt Gorin 150 Main St South River NJ 08882	\$1910.56 (cancel & refund)
164.02	10	Fabio S. Fonseca 13 Pulawski Avenue South River NJ 08882	\$2030.44 (cancel)

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-113
RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SUBMISSION OF A REQUEST FOR FY 27 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING TO
U.S. SENATOR ANDY KIM FOR THE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity for the Borough of South River to submit a Congressionally Directed Spending Request through the Office of U.S. Senator Andy Kim for the Water Main Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, the assistance of these federal funds is in the best interest of the South River community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of South River finds it exceptionally beneficial to apply for these funds to complete this important project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South River, in the County of Middlesex, and State of New Jersey, expresses their full support of submission of the request for Congressionally Directed Spending, which would be used to fund the Water Main Replacement Project.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-114
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River that February 9th, 2026, Regular and Executive Meeting Minutes are approved.

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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-115
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South River that March 2nd, 2026, Regular and Executive Meeting Minutes are approved.

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			

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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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

**RESOLUTION 2026-116
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 \$1,246,361.91 and previously paid claims in the amount of \$2,496,975.21 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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

RESOLUTION 2026-117

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAND USE BOARD TO UNDERTAKE AN INVESTIGATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 85 PROSPECT STREET, MORE SPECIFICALLY BLOCK 38, LOTS 7, 8, 8.01, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16.01, 17.01 AND 18.01, AS A POSSIBLE AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the "LRHL"), authorizes the governing body, by resolution, to authorize the Land Use Board to undertake an investigation to determine whether an area within the municipality is in need of redevelopment in accordance with the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5; and

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WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South River, acting as the redevelopment entity of the Borough, deem it appropriate and in the best interests of the Borough to authorize the Land Use Board to undertake such an investigation, with the assistance of the Borough Planner and such other professionals as may be designated by the Borough, to determine whether certain property located at 85 Prospect Street, Borough of South River, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, more specifically identified as Block 38, Lots 7, 8, 8.01, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16.01, 17.01 and 18.01 (the “85 Prospect Street Study Area”), satisfies the statutory criteria to be designated as an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South River further find that authorizing the investigation of the 85 Prospect Street Study Area is in the public interest and will assist the Borough in determining whether the Study Area meets the statutory criteria for designation as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, prior to conducting a public hearing on the matter, the Land Use Board shall prepare and submit to the governing body a map showing the boundaries of the 85 Prospect Street Study Area and the location of the various parcels of property included therein, together with a statement setting forth the basis for the investigation; and

WHEREAS, any interested or affected property owners shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be conducted by the Land Use Board, with notice thereof to be provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6; and

WHEREAS, all hearing notice requirements shall be satisfied in accordance with applicable law.

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

1. The Land Use Board is hereby authorized and directed to undertake an investigation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6 to determine whether the 85 Prospect Street Study Area, more specifically identified as Block 38, Lots 7, 8, 8.01, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16.01, 17.01 and 18.01, constitutes an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., as a non-condemnation redevelopment area, in which the Borough may exercise redevelopment powers without the use of eminent domain unless otherwise authorized by subsequent action.
2. The Land Use Board shall prepare and submit to the governing body a map delineating the boundaries of the 85 Prospect Street Study Area and a report of its findings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6 and N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5, which report may be prepared by or with the assistance of the Borough Planner and other professionals retained or designated by the Borough.
3. Upon completion of its investigation, the Land Use Board shall conduct a public hearing, after providing proper notice to interested parties and affected property owners in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6, and shall thereafter make a recommendation to the governing body as to whether the 85 Prospect Street Study Area should be designated as an area in need of redevelopment.
4. The Borough Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Land Use Board and to the owners of record of the properties located within the 85 Prospect Street Study Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Councilman Giannakopoulos			X			
Councilman Gurchensky			X			
Council President DeSantis	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 23, 2026

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Borough of South River

PUBLIC COMMENT- Good and Welfare of the Borough (5 min per speaker)

Mayor Guindi opened the floor for Public Comment.

Chuck Biggar, 33 Terry Drive, commends the DPW for the hard work during the snowstorms. Mr. Biggar speaks on Colon Drive being closed and how successful the closure has been.

Lisa Byrne, 11 Bissett Place, thanks DPW for their hard work during the snowstorms.

Bonnie Trygar, 44 Ferry Street, speaks on the concerns for the plan for downtown Main Street. Mrs. Trygar would like to see any plans, especially with a business being in the downtown area. Discussions ensue regarding the plans. Mrs. Trygar speaks on ideas she has for Ferry Street. Mayor Guindi states he will be reaching out to Mrs. Trygar for an appointment to discuss any concerns she has regarding Ferry Street.

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.

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

Councilwoman DaSilva

- Thank you to DPW. Please be patient with them
- Speaks on an incident she witnessed on 3/21 regarding kids on E-bikes
- Happy Easter

Councilman Gurchensky

- Thank you to all public safety officers
- Happy Spring

Councilman Giannakopoulos

- Thank you to DPW for all their hard work
- Happy Easter and Happy Passover

Councilman Dziemian

- St. Peter and Paul will be having an Easter Food Sale this Saturday, 3/28 from 10 am to 2 pm
- The next imperial Music Concert is 3/29
- If anyone has any ideas or would like to help with Frost on the Pumpkin, please reach out
- Thank you to DPW for all their hard work that they continue to do every day.
- Happy Easter

Councilman Donato

- Speaks on the Water Main Replacement project. Mayor Guindi states the consultant will be at our next council meeting to speak on the project.
- Speaks on the lighting on Main Street.

Council President DeSantis

- Speaks on the issues with E-bikes and how it is the responsibility of all of South River

Mayor Guindi

- Speaks on the meter project and the electric bills
- Please be patient with DPW regarding potholes
- Speaks on roads that are being redone
- Congratulations to Troop 83 for being 1st place in a competition
- Speaks on current and future projects
- Happy Easter

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 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Hager

Alyssa Hager, RMC
Borough Clerk