BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
AGENDA
July 24, 2025

Time: _____
Moment of Silence
Salute to the Flag

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Union County Hawk and advertised on December 26, 2024. Notification was sent to the Local Source Union County, and is posted on the Municipal website, the Municipal public bulletin board, and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk informing the public of the time and place according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 241, P.L. 1975).

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blumenstock	_____		
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

Roll call staff and professionals:
John Arthur, Borough Administrator
Adam Abramson, Borough Attorney
Michael Disko, Borough Engineer
Jonathan Pridy, Chief of Police

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS:
Hera Property Registry LLC Presentation

Reports:
Report of Borough Engineer
Report of Borough Attorney
Report of Borough Administrator
Report of Mayor Blumenstock

Comments from the Council:
Councilwoman Boto
Councilman Foley
Councilman Kearney
Councilman Lazarow
Councilman Padusniak
Council President Nolde

MINUTES:
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on June 26, 2025.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

All in favor ____, opposed _____?

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. RVSA minutes – June 12, 2025
   https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/RVSA_Minutes(3).pdf

2. Township of Cranford – Introduced Ordinance No. 2025-17 - pertaining to Permitted and Conditional Uses in the C-1 Zone.
   https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Clerk_to_Surrounding_Communities_-_O-2025-17-C-1_Zone.pdf

ORDINANCES:
ADOPTION AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 25-21 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 25-21

CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 162 IN THE MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "FILMING"

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/INTRODUCTION_-_Ord._25-21_-_Creating_Film_Ready_Chapter_162.pdf

List correspondence concerning Ordinance No. 25-21.

Does anyone present wish to be heard concerning Ordinance No. 25-21.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 25-21.

All in favor: _____, opposed: _____

Discussion:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to adopt Ordinance No. 25-21.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

INTRODUCTION:

Municipal Clerk to read Ordinance No. 25-22 by title only:

ORDINANCE NO. 25-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 160 ENTITLED "TOWING", ARTICLE II, "CONDUCT OF WRECKERS", SUBSECTION 160-11, "FEE SCHEDULE".

https://garwoodnj.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B7F1088A0-CEC9-4505-80EE-1DF1BF7DFFBD%7D/uploads/Ord._25-22_-_Amending_Towing_Fees.pdf

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to introduce Ordinance No. 25-22.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL: Councilman Foley, Chair

FIRE AND OEM: Councilman Lazarow, Chair

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Councilman Padusniak, Chair

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilwoman Boto, Chair

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Kearney, Chair

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Council President Nolde, Chair

LIBRARY, MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Councilman Lazarow

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

GARWOOD SENIOR CITIZEN LIAISON: Mayor Blumenstock

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

BOARD OF HEALTH LIAISON: Councilman Foley

PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Councilman Kearney

OFFICER'S REPORTS: PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

PUBLIC COMMENT*:*

Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Council please step to the microphone, and state your full name and address. **Please limit your comments to five minutes.**

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to close public comment.

All in favor _____, opposed _____?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA

(Adoption upon Roll Call) Consent agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in the full minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-147

RESOLUTION APPROVING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranford ("Cranford") and Borough of Garwood ("Garwood") have entered into shared service agreements since 2015 to provide Uniform Construction Code construction official services and sub-code official services ("uniform construction code services") to Garwood; and

WHEREAS, Cranford and Garwood have negotiated terms for the shared services agreement and costs associated with same; and

WHEREAS, the duration of the shared services agreement shall be for four (4) years and shall commence August 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood seeks to hereby ratify the shared services agreement between Garwood and Cranford for uniform construction code services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, hereby approve the Shared Services Agreement,

for a four (4) year period, commencing August 1, 2025 between the Township of Cranford and Borough of Garwood for uniform construction code services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement on behalf of the Borough of Garwood.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-148

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE BID THRESHOLD PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 AND N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer has adjusted the bid threshold amounts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(c), effective July 1, 2025, as outlined in Local Finance Notice 2025-08; and

WHEREAS, contracting units that have appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9(b) may take advantage of the increased bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of Garwood has previously appointed John Arthur as its Qualified Purchasing Agent in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the maximum bid threshold for contracting units with a QPA has been increased from $44,000 to $53,000, and the corresponding quotation threshold (15% of bid threshold) has been increased to $7,950; and

WHEREAS, the governing body wishes to formally adopt the increased bid and quotation thresholds to streamline procurement and improve operational efficiency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The bid threshold for the Borough of Garwood is hereby increased to $53,000 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.

2. The quotation threshold is hereby increased to $7,950.

3. The Qualified Purchasing Agent is authorized to award contracts below the bid threshold and solicit quotations in accordance with applicable law.

4. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-149

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT QUOTE FROM DAN SWAYZE & SON INC. FOR BICYCLE LANE STRIPING ON CENTER STREET

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood has received a quote from Dan Swayze & Son Inc., 2351 Waldheim Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Thirty-Six Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents ($25,036.25) for the Center Street bicycle lane striping; and

WHEREAS, funding for this acquisition shall be partially provided through the following sources: a $10,000 grant from 2025 Sustainable NJ Grant, a $7,500 grant from the 2025 Union County Infrastructure Grant Program, and an allocation of $7,536.25 from Bond Ordinance No. 25-18.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The contract quote submitted by Dan Swayze & Son Inc. in the amount of $25,036.25 is hereby approved.

2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any necessary documents to effectuate the contract and disburse payment accordingly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this quote be subject to the Borough Treasurer executing the appropriate Certification of Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-150

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CAMERAS FROM QUICK COPPER TECHNOLOGY FOR POLICE SURVEILLANCE PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Garwood Police Department has submitted a capital request for the acquisition of surveillance cameras to enhance public safety within the Borough of Garwood; and

WHEREAS, Quick Copper Technologies, 55 South Avenue, Suite 2, Garwood, New Jersey 07027 has provided a proposal to supply said cameras and associated surveillance equipment at a total cost of $28,672.91; and

WHEREAS, the funding for this purchase is available through the 2025 Multipurpose Bond 25-18 authorized for capital improvements and equipment in the amount of $28,672.91;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to expend the sum of $28,672.91 from the 2025 Multipurpose Bond for the purchase of cameras/surveillance

equipment from Quick Copper Technology as requested by the Police Department; and

2. The Mayor is authorized to take any and all necessary actions to effectuate the purchase and installation of said equipment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this quote be subject to the Borough Treasurer executing the appropriate Certification of Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-151

RESOLUTION AWARDING NJDOT PROJECT – EAST STREET, NEW STREET AND WALNUT STRET – CONTRACT 2025-1

WHEREAS, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey the Borough Clerk was authorized to advertise for a bid entitled "RESURFACING OF SECTIONS OF EAST STREET, NEW STREET AND WALNUT STREET – CONTRACT 2025-1); and

WHEREAS, the project consists of milling and resurfacing of sections of East Street, New Street and Walnut Street); and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2025, at the advertised time of 11:00 a.m., Midwest Construction Inc., 19 Dead River Road, Warren, New Jersey 07059 submitted a base bid amount of $307,456.92 plus Alternate #1 in the amount of $6,000.10 for East Locust and Alternate #2 in the amount of $4,250.00 for sanitary sewer manholes, Alternate #3 in the amount of $6,300 for TV Insp. of East Street, totaling $324,007.02 which is determined the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the project is being charged to Bond Ordinance No. 25-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Garwood that the contract be hereby awarded to Midwest Construction Inc., for $324,007.02, which includes the base bid, plus Alternate #1, #2 and #3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this quote be subject to the Borough Treasurer executing the appropriate Certification of Funds.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon approval from DOT, the Mayor and Borough Clerk be and are hereby authorized to execute an agreement in the form approved by the Borough Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-152

RESOLUTION REJECTING BIDS FOR THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD CIRCULATION ELEMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, *et. seq*. and N.J.A.C. 5:34, *et. seq*., the Borough of Garwood ("Borough") solicited bids for the Borough of Garwood Circulation Element; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received bids on July 10, 2025 for the Borough of Garwood Circulation Element; and

WHEREAS, the bids must be rejected in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2, as the lowest completed bid substantially exceeds the Borough's appropriation for the Circulation Element; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood that all bids received on July 10, 2025 are hereby rejected;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough QPA will repost a notice for a new solicitation of bid.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-153

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Garwood are required to contract for Professional Affordable Housing Attorney Services to provide Legal Counsel and other legal services to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator of the Borough of Garwood posted in accordance with law and received proposals on July 1, 2025, under a fair and open process in accordance with P.L. 2004, c.19, as amended by P.L. 2005, c.51; and

WHEREAS, the said Governing Body has determined that such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law requires that a notice stating the nature, duration, services and amount of each contract awarded as a professional services contract be printed once in the official newspaper of the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Garwood:

1. That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with Robert Renaud, Esq., of Renaud Colicchio, LLC, 190 North Avenue East, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, for the provision of professional affordable housing attorney services for the Borough of Garwood; and

2. That the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to maintain this resolution and the professional services contract on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Borough Clerk; and

3. In an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000); and

4. That the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish a copy of this notice as required by law.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-154

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLANNER

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Garwood are required to contract for Affordable Housing Professional Planning Services for to provide affordable housing planning services to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Garwood posted in accordance with law and received proposals on July 1, 2024, under a fair and open process in accordance with P.L. 2004, c.19, as amended by P.L. 2005, c.51; and

WHEREAS, the said Governing Body has determined that such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law requires that a notice stating the nature, duration, services and amount of each contract awarded as a professional services contract be printed once in the official newspaper of the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Garwood:

1. That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with Michael Mistretta of Harbor Consultants Inc., 320 North Avenue East, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 for the provision of affordable housing professional planning services for the Borough of Garwood; and

2. That the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to maintain this resolution and the professional services contract on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Borough Clerk; and

3. In an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000); and

4. That the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish a copy of this notice as required by law.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-155

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT QUOTE FROM DENBAR CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR RAMP INSTALLATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood has received a quote from Denbar Construction Inc., 625B North Michigan Avenue, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033 in the amount of Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents ($22,600) for the ramp installation at corner of South Avenue and West Street; and

WHEREAS, the funding for this purchase is partially provided through the following sources: 2025 Multipurpose Bond 25-18 in the amount of $20,000 authorized for capital improvements and equipment and an allocation of $2,600 from the 2025 Buildings & Grounds budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The contract quote submitted by Denbar Construction Inc. in the amount of $22,600 is hereby approved.

2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any necessary documents to effectuate the contract and disburse payment accordingly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award of this quote be subject to the Borough Treasurer executing the appropriate Certification of Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-156

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY EXEMPTION FOR FILMING RELATED ACTIVITIES AT THE WESTWOOD

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood received correspondence from the General Manager of the Westwood seeking a temporary exemption for their hours of operation to provide support functions to a television production filming in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Westwood is seeking to extend their hours of operation on Saturday, August 2, 2025 until 4:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Garwood is in the process of developing and finalizing a film ordinance to regulate filming activities within the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the film ordinance is not yet in effect as of the date of this resolution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Garwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that:

1. A one (1) day exemption for hours of operation to provide support functions for filming related activities at the Westwood is hereby approved for the morning of Saturday, August 2, 2025, subject to the following conditions:

    a. No alcohol shall be served or permitted for consumption on the premises on August 2, 2025 between the hours of 12:01 a.m. through 9:00 a.m.
    b. All filming related activities must conclude by 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 2, 2025 and the Westwood must be closed at 4:00 a.m.

2. This exemption shall not be precedent setting and is granted solely due to the pending status of the Borough's film ordinance.

3. Once considered, the Borough Clerk shall notify the applicant of this determination.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-157

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE LA-2026 MA GARWOOD BOROUGH RESURFACING OF SECTIONS OF SECOND AVENUE, WILLOW AVENUE AND SOUTH AVENUE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, there is a grant application and grant contract with NJDOT for the LA-2025 MA Borough of Garwood Resurfacing.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Engineer is hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LA-2026 MA Garwood Borough to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Garwood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Garwood and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to adopt Consent Agenda.

Discussion:

ROLL CALL*:*

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

RESOLUTIONS DELETED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by _____, second by _____, to adopt Resolution # 25-_____.

Discussion: Council

ROLL CALL*:*

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND REFUNDS AS LISTED ON FILE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following claims as approved be and the same are hereby ordered paid when properly signed and verified; and the payment of payrolls as listed is hereby confirmed and ratified.

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to adopt Payment of Claims Resolution.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Lazarow	_____
Councilman Foley	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____
Councilman Kearney	_____	Council President Nolde	_____

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **August 14, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.** in Council Chambers. Information for meetings is posted on the Borough website: https://garwood.org/gb_notices

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to adjourn.

All in favor _____, opposed _____?

Time:_____