

**Independence Township Committee  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
November 10, 2025  
7:00 pm**

This is a regular meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00 p.m. with the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Herald Times and The Express Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

Roll Call: Deputy Mayor Pennington, Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mayor Giordano

**Minutes**

Mr. Stuber made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 14, 2025, which as seconded by Mrs. Kelsey.

Ayes: Deputy Mayor Pennington, Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mayor Giordano

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**Department Reports:**

Joe King, CPWM stated that Ryan Road has been paved the lines and guiderails will be completed in the upcoming months. All else is good.

Melissa Shurack, Recreation Director, thanked the DPW for all of their hard work this season. Also, basketball season has started.

Brian Harchar, Fire Chief, stated that it has been busy with wind causing wires to come down, bingo is going well, there will be breakfast in December.

Chief Prell, Police Chief, stated that the SLEO will be starting at the school on December 1, 2025. The Recruits will be graduating the academy on November 21<sup>st</sup> if anyone would like to attend.

**Consent Agenda:**

25-66

**2025 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS**

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in the below listed account(s) to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the current year, and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in the below listed account(s) over and above the amount deemed necessary for the balance of the current year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence that, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58, part of the surplus in the account(s) heretofore mentioned be and same are hereby authorized as transfers to the account(s) mentioned as being insufficient, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Officer is hereby directed to make the following transfers:

FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
Community Service – O/E	\$ 2,400.00	Public Works – S&W	\$ 5,000.00
Public Works – O/E	\$ 4,100.00	Solid Waste – O/E	\$ 1,500.00

25-67

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTOPHER WOJTACH AS A CLASS III SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Independence has entered into a Shared Service Agreement with Great Meadows Regional School District as they recognized the need for the appointment of a Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Class III to the Township of Independence Police Department, for the safety of some of our most precious residents;

WHEREAS, Christopher Wojtach based on his qualifications, has been selected to serve in the position of Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Class III for the Township of Independence Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, hereby appoints Christopher Wojtach to serve as a Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Class III effective November 17, 2025.

Mr. Stuber made a motion to approve the passage of the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Pennington.

Ayes: Deputy Mayor Pennington, Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mayor Giordano

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**Swearing In School Resource Officer-**

Deputy Mayor Pennington conducted the swearing in of SLEO Wojtach.

**Bill List**

Deputy Mayor Pennington made a motion to approve the bill list as presented, which was seconded by Mrs. Kelsey.

Ayes: Deputy Mayor Pennington, Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mayor Giordano

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**Public Comment:**

Mayor Giordano asked if the Committee members would be available to have reorganization and regular meeting on January 6, 2025.

All members were in agreement that reorganization will be held on January 6 and requested that the Clerk advertise the same.

Mayor Giordano made a motion to appoint Martin Szewczyk to the Land Use Board as a representative of the Environmental Commission.

Deputy Mayor Penington made a motion to appoint Nick Biamonte as an Alternate to the Land Use Board.

Mrs. Kelsey made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 pm, which was carried by all.