

**Independence Township Committee
Regular Meeting Agenda
December 9, 2025
7:00 pm**

Call to Order, Flag Salute, Open Public Meetings Act

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

Minute:

Mr. Pennington made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on November 10, 2025, which was seconded by Mr. Stuber.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Mrs. Gesumaria

Abstain: None

Swearing In:

Police Liaison Pennington conducted the swearing in of Patrolman Carbone and Patrolman Castner.

Department Reports:

DPW

Recreation

Police

Rescue

Consent Agenda

25-68

STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER

2026 Fund year

WHEREAS, Independence Township (hereinafter "Local Unit") is a member of the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Fund's Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Fund Commissioner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Independence Township (Local Unit) that Dena Hrebenak, RMC/Administrator (*entity's elected official or employee*) is hereby appointed as the Fund Commissioner for the Local Unit for the **Fund Year 2026**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Chief Christopher Prell (second elected official or employee) is hereby appointed as the Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Local Unit for the **Fund Year 2026**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Local Unit's Fund Commissioner is authorized and directed to execute all such documents as required by the Fund.

25-69

RESOLUTION APPOINTING RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT 2026 Fund Year

WHEREAS, Independence Township (hereinafter "Local Unit") has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant, as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the "Fund"; and

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the "Fund" has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of "Local Unit", in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Independence Township (Local Unit) hereby appoints Otterstedt Insurance Agency, Inc. its Risk Management Consultant.
2. The Mayor (*authorized representative of the public entity*) and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's

Agreement for the year **2026** in the form attached hereto.

Mr. Stuber made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-68 and 26-69, which was seconded by Mrs. Kelsey.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Mrs. Gesumaria

Abstain: None

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

Warren County, New Jersey

No. 25-70

Date of Adoption: December 9, 2025

Title: Bingo

WHEREAS, Independence Township Volunteer Fire Company is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (181-5-32289) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted applications for Bingo to be held on the first Wednesday of the month each month in 2026 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that BA# 2025-02 (Bingo) be issued to Independence Township Volunteer Fire Company.

Mr. Stuber made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 25-70, which was seconded by Mrs. Kelsey.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Mrs. Gesumaria

Abstain: Mr. Pennington

Bill List

Mr. Pennington made a motion to approve the bill list as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Stuber.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Mrs. Gesumaria

Abstain: None

Public Comment:

Michael Albriect spoke to the Township Committee in reference to the speeding and other issues in the Oak Hill Development.

Mrs. Carvino spoke in reference to the speeding on Russling Road.

Mrs. Kelsey made a motion to adjourn at 7:34pm, which was seconded by Mr. Pennington and carried by all.