

**AGENDA**  
**Hightstown Borough Council**  
**September 8, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.**  
**Hightstown Engine Company No. 1**  
**140 North Main Street, Hightstown**

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES DURING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING TO AVOID SOUNDS/RINGING OR CONVERSATIONS THAT MAY INTERFERE WITH THE RECORDING OR THE ABILITY OF ATTENDEES TO HEAR THE PROCEEDINGS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Susan Bluth**

**STATEMENT:** Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Trenton Times and the Trentonian as required by law and is posted on the Hightstown Borough website.

**Roll Call**

**Flag Salute**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**      August 17, 2026 – Public Session  
                                         August 17, 2026 – Executive Session

**Public Comment** Any person wishing to address Council with his or her comments will have a maximum of three minutes to do so at this time.

**Ordinances**                      **2026-18 Final Reading and Public Hearing** An Ordinance Authorizing the Conveyance of a Portion of Borough-Owned Real Property Located at 10 North Main Street (Block 30, Lot 13.01) to the State of New Jersey

**2026-19 First Reading and Introduction** Bond Ordinance Providing a Supplemental Appropriation of \$130,000 for Improvements to Dutch Neck Road in and by the Borough of Hightstown, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$130,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance the Cost Thereof

**Resolutions**                      **2026-188** Re-Appointing Seth A. Kurs as Municipal Court Judge  
                                         **2026-189** Authorizing an Application for a New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant for Improvements to a Public Facility  
                                         **2026-190** Authorizing the Public Sale of Surplus Municipal Property Known as Block 9, Lot 39, Grant Avenue  
                                         **2026-191** Resolution Declaring Borough-Owned Property Located at 220-222 Academy Street, Block 40, Lot 21, As Surplus Property

Not needed for Public Use and Authorizing the Commencement of the Disposition Process

### **Consent Agenda**

**2026-192** Resolution Authorizing the Borough Engineer to Request an Additional Six-Month Award Extension from the New Jersey Department of Transportation in Connection with the Grant Received for Improvements to Broad Street, Van Rensselaer Avenue and Manlove Avenue

**2026-193** Resolution Authorizing the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2026 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) 2026 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown

**2026-194** Resolution Authorizing the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2026 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) Mercer County Trail Rehabilitation Program

**2026-195** Resolution Authorizing the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2026 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) New Jersey Department of Community Affairs – Public Facility Improvements 2027

**2026-196** A Resolution Confirming the Hire of Walter Current as DPW Laborer for the Borough of Hightstown

**2026-197** A Resolution Approving an Open Mic Night Organized by the Hightstown Borough Cultural Arts Commission

**2026-198** Resolution Designating the Code Enforcement Officer as Public Officer and Directing the Establishment of an Abandoned Property List

### **Discussion**

### **Subcommittee Reports**

### **Mayor/Council/Administrative Updates**

**Executive Session**      **Resolution 2026-199** Authorizing a Meeting that Excludes the Public  
Contract Negotiations – Housing Authority Cooperation Agreement  
Real Property

### **Adjournment**

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-18

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF A PORTION OF  
BOROUGH-OWNED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 140 NORTH MAIN STREET  
(BLOCK 30, LOT 13.01) TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown (referenced as “Hightstown” or the “Borough”) is the record owner of certain real property located at 140 North Main Street, Hightstown, New Jersey, which property is more commonly known and designated as Block 30, Lot 13.01 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Hightstown (the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey, by and through the New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”), is undertaking the ADA Central Contract 2 Project along Route 33, Section 3, from Hickory Corner Road to the Middlesex County Line (the “Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with the Project, NJDOT seeks to acquire a fee interest in an approximately seventy (70) square-foot portion of the Property, which is designated by NJDOT as Parcel 25, Route 33, Section 3 (the “Parcel”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Parcel is more particularly described in Schedule A and depicted on Exhibit B to the proposed Agreement of Sale between the Borough and the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough and NJDOT have negotiated a purchase price of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for the Parcel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that the Parcel is not needed for public use by the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Local Lands and Buildings Law, specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(1), authorizes a municipality, by ordinance, to sell at private sale, without public auction, real property or an interest therein that is not needed for public use to any political subdivision, agency, department, commission, board or body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that it is in the best interests of Hightstown to convey the Parcel to the State of New Jersey, by and through NJDOT, for purposes of the Project for the consideration and upon the terms set forth herein and in the Agreement of Sale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council now wishes to authorize the conveyance of the Parcel through the adoption of the within Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown, in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-18

Section 1. That the Borough Council hereby determines that the approximately seventy (70) square-foot portion of Block 30, Lot 13.01 designated as Parcel 25, Route 33, Section 3 (the "Parcel"), is not needed for public use by the Borough.

Section 2. That, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(1), the Borough of Hightstown is hereby authorized to convey at private sale, without public auction, to the State of New Jersey, by and through the New Jersey Department of Transportation, the Borough's fee interest in the Parcel, which Parcel is more particularly described in Schedule A and depicted on Exhibit B to the Agreement of Sale.

Section 3. That the minimum price for the Parcel shall be Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00), which is also the agreed-upon purchase price to be paid by the State of New Jersey pursuant to the Agreement of Sale.

Section 4. That the terms and conditions associated with the Borough's conveyance of the Parcel shall be as set forth in the Agreement of Sale between the Borough and the State of New Jersey, including Schedule A and Exhibit B thereto, which Agreement is hereby approved.

Section 5. That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, and the Borough Clerk to attest, the Agreement of Sale and, following satisfaction of the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b), the deed and any other documents deemed necessary to effectuate the conveyance of the Parcel, so long as said documents are in a form satisfactory to the Borough Attorney.

Section 6. That all Borough officials are hereby authorized to undertake all necessary activities in furtherance of the intentions of the within Ordinance.

Section 7. That the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to undertake all posting, publication, filing, and other actions required in connection with the private sale authorized herein pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b).

Section 8. That this Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with law, subject to the requirements and time periods set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b).

Section 9. That all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Introduced: August 17, 2026

Adopted: **Scheduled for Public Hearing September 8, 2026**

---

Margaret Riggio, RMC/CMC  
Borough Clerk

---

Susan Bluth  
Mayor

**Schedule A**

All that certain land and premises, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer and State of New Jersey and more particularly described as follows:

Parcel 25 as indicated on a map entitled: "NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, GENERAL PROPERTY PARCEL MAP, ROUTE 33 (1953) Section 3, Hickory Corner Road to Middlesex County Line, Showing Existing Right of Way And Parcels To Be Acquired In The Township of East Windsor And Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, January 2020"; and as shown more particularly on a map attached hereto and made a part hereof, marked "Exhibit B", entitled: "NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, ROUTE 33 (1953), Section 3, Hickory Corner Road to Middlesex County Line, PARCEL 25, Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County, January 2020", and also being construction project "ADA Central Contract 2", Contract No. SWI154180;

Parcel 25, including specifically all the land and premises located at about Station 4+60, Route 33 (1953) Section 3, Baseline Stationing, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the proposed northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 10, said point being 32.75 feet northwesterly of and perpendicular to Route 33 (1953) Section 3 baseline Station 4+48.00, as laid down on the aforesaid maps, and running thence:

- (1) North 16° 49' 07" East (calculated), 23 feet (calculated), along said proposed right of way line, thence;
- (2) South 73° 10' 53" East (calculated), 3 feet (calculated), to the point of intersection with the existing northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 3, thence;
- (3) South 15° 49' 41" West (deed), 23 feet (scaled), along the existing northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 3, thence;
- (4) North 73° 10' 53" West (calculated), 3 feet (calculated) along said proposed right of way line to the point and place of beginning;

Containing 70 square feet of land, more or less;

Being also known as part of Lot 13.01 in Block 30 as shown on the Tax Maps for the Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County;

TOGETHER WITH, any ownership, reversionary or associated right, title and interest that the owner may have in the right of way of Route 33 (1953) contiguous to the above described premises as shown on the aforesaid map;

SUBJECT HOWEVER, to all public utility easements, recorded or unrecorded, affecting the herein described premises;

The above-described premises are color coded on "Exhibit B" in the following manner:

Red – Fee Parcel Line.

Form RE 11 A1

Project: ADA Central Contract 2  
Route: 33 Section: 3  
Parcel: 25

**AGREEMENT OF SALE**

**AGREEMENT MADE THIS** \_\_\_\_\_ **DAY OF** \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

**BETWEEN** \_\_\_\_\_ **Borough of Hightstown**

**HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE SELLERS,**

**WHOSE ADDRESS IS: 156 Bank Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520**

**AND**

**THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, BY THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION**

**HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE STATE,**

**THE SELLERS AGREE TO CONVEY TO THE STATE BY BARGAIN AND SALE DEED, WITH COVENANT AGAINST GRANTORS ACTS, FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL ENCUMBRANCES EXCEPT AS MAY BE PROVIDED FOR IN THE PARCEL DESCRIPTION ATTACHED TO THIS AGREEMENT, AND THE STATE AGREES TO PURCHASE FROM THE SELLERS,**

**FOR THE SUM OF (\$6,000.00) Six Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents**

**certain land and premises in the Municipality of Hightstown Borough, in the COUNTY of Mercer and STATE OF NEW JERSEY, described in Schedule "A" and Exhibit "B", which are attached.**

Prepared for the State by Dominic Paladino, JM

Form RE 11C2

Buyer and seller agree to the following:

1. The cash consideration herein agreed to is to be considered by both parties as payment in full of all claims of whatever nature against the State, including claims by the sellers, their successors, assigns, tenants, lessees, or anyone acting in their behalf, for damages resulting from this acquisition. This consideration does not include payment for damages caused by the State's contractor on property retained by the Seller.
2. This agreement shall not be binding upon the State until it is formally accepted by the Commissioner of Transportation or his duly authorized representative. The State will provide the seller with a copy of this agreement after it has received the necessary approval. The State will also prepare and submit the necessary deed and other instruments of conveyance to the seller within 90 days of the transmittal of the approved agreement to the seller.
3. The State, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:3-26, will reimburse the seller for reasonable expenses incidental to conveying title. Attorney fees are not reimbursable.
4. The attached environmental addendum is made a part of this agreement and its terms shall not merge with the deed and shall survive the closing of title.
5. After this agreement is signed by the seller, the seller will not permit anyone, who is not already a tenant or occupant, to occupy the premises.
6. The seller shall pay all real estate taxes to the earliest of the following dates: date of delivery of deed; date the State is vested with title pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:3-21; date the State enters into and accepts possession.
7. The seller shall pay all assessments and other municipal liens affecting the above described parcel, with the exception of farmland rollback taxes. Any rollback taxes applicable to this acquisition will be the responsibility of the State.
8. The seller shall cause to be properly released, satisfied or discharged all tenancies, mortgages, judgments and other encumbrances and shall furnish proper evidence of having done so and shall execute and deliver an affidavit of title to the State. However, the State's acquisition will be subject to all public utility easements.
9. The seller shall transfer the interest being acquired by the State in this agreement within 30 days from the date the instruments of conveyance were received from the State.
10. Payment pursuant to this agreement shall be made upon receipt of the properly executed instruments of conveyance together with all proofs which are required to convey clear title. Upon payment, the State shall be given full possession of the parcel. In lieu of possession, the State, at its sole discretion, may lease the parcel to the seller if immediate possession is not required.

10a. The seller hereby acknowledges that it has clear understanding that it is not required to surrender possession until such time as payment is available, provided in all other respects it has complied with the terms of the agreement and, anything else to the contrary herein

RE EAC/I

ENVIRONMENTAL ADDENDUM TO  
RIGHT OF WAY PURCHASE CONTRACT  
FOR COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL

1. (a) Seller(s) represent(s) the following to the best of Seller('s) knowledge and belief: (i) the property is in compliance with all applicable local, state and federal laws, regulations, ordinances, permits, orders, and directives regarding pollutants, contaminants, hazardous waste, materials and/or substances (hereinafter collectively referred to as "contamination") or solid waste; (ii) there is no pending or contemplated proceeding or administrative action arising out of the environmental condition of the property except as provided in subparagraph (c); and (iii) the property has never been remediated; except as provided in subparagraph (c).

(b) Seller further represents that: (i) he has/they have not discharged any hazardous substances or waste; (ii) he has/they have no knowledge of any discharge of hazardous substances or waste on the property; (iii) he/they did not deposit or cause to be deposited solid waste on the property; and (iv) he has/they have no knowledge of the presence of solid waste on or buried in the property; except as provided in subparagraph (c).

(c) The following exceptions to subparagraph (a) and (b) are noted: None

2. The sale price set forth in this agreement assumes there is no contamination and/or solid waste present on the property above actionable levels in excess of current applicable standards as required by the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). However, where the existence of contamination or solid waste is noted in paragraph 1(c) above actionable levels as established by DEP, the sale price reflects the anticipated remediated condition of the property and not its present condition.

3. Seller shall not be relieved of any legal obligations pursuant to federal or state statutes or regulations or under common law resulting from the presence of contamination or solid waste on the property as of the date of closing or the date of vacation of the property by all occupants, whichever is later. The Department of Transportation ("DOT") does not accept any liability or responsibility of Seller(s) or any occupant. Pursuant to N.J.S.A.58:10-23.11g(d)(4), DOT is not liable for the cleanup and removal costs of any discharge which occurred or began prior to DOT's ownership.

4. The DOT shall be responsible only for the actual costs of conducting a preliminary environmental screening and assessment of the property, which shall be limited to inspection for the presence of contamination as distinguished from determining the source and extent of contamination. The failure of this screening to detect contamination or the presence of solid waste shall not be a bar to any future recovery action by the DOT in the event contamination or solid waste is discovered.

5. The provisions of this addendum shall survive the transfer of title. The DOT does not waive any rights that it may have to pursue administrative remedies or to bring suit under

applicable federal or state statutes or regulations or under common law and hereby reserves the right to do so in the event any contamination or solid waste is discovered which preexisted the closing of title.

6. This contract was negotiated pursuant to the Eminent Domain Law of 1971 and is the result of bona fide negotiation.

7. This agreement will not in any way affect the jurisdiction of the DEP over the subject property.

8. The parties agree that the following remediation and/or removal of solid waste as noted in subparagraph 1(c) will be handled as follows: N/A

RE SC

**Signature**

This Agreement is signed and attested to by the Grantor's proper corporate officers as of the date at the top of the first page.

Attested by:

**Borough of Hightstown**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name of attesting witness below signature)

By \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name below signature)

*Corporate Acknowledgment*

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

) SS.:

**COUNTY OF**

**I CERTIFY** that on \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, \_\_\_\_\_  
personally came before me and this person acknowledged under oath, to my satisfaction, that:

(a) this person is the \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_  
the corporation named in this Agreement;

(b) this person is the attesting witness to the signing of this agreement by the proper corporate officer who is \_\_\_\_\_,

(c) this Agreement was signed and delivered by the corporation as its voluntary act duly authorized by a proper resolution of its Board of Directors;

(d) this person signed this proof to attest to the truth of these facts;

**Sworn to and subscribed before  
me the date aforesaid**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public of

## Page 10 of 21

**Schedule A**

All that certain land and premises, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer and State of New Jersey and more particularly described as follows:

Parcel 25 as indicated on a map entitled: "NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, GENERAL PROPERTY PARCEL MAP, ROUTE 33 (1953) Section 3, Hickory Corner Road to Middlesex County Line, Showing Existing Right of Way And Parcels To Be Acquired In The Township of East Windsor And Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, January 2020"; and as shown more particularly on a map attached hereto and made a part hereof, marked "Exhibit B", entitled: "NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, ROUTE 33 (1953), Section 3, Hickory Corner Road to Middlesex County Line, PARCEL 25, Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County, January 2020", and also being construction project "ADA Central Contract 2", Contract No. SWI154180;

Parcel 25, including specifically all the land and premises located at about Station 4+60, Route 33 (1953) Section 3, Baseline Stationing, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the proposed northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 10, said point being 32.75 feet northwesterly of and perpendicular to Route 33 (1953) Section 3 baseline Station 4+48.00, as laid down on the aforesaid maps, and running thence:

- (1) North 16° 49' 07" East (calculated), 23 feet (calculated), along said proposed right of way line, thence;
- (2) South 73° 10' 53" East (calculated), 3 feet (calculated), to the point of intersection with the existing northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 3, thence;
- (3) South 15° 49' 41" West (deed), 23 feet (scaled), along the existing northwesterly right of way line of Route 33 (1953) Section 3, thence;
- (4) North 73° 10' 53" West (calculated), 3 feet (calculated) along said proposed right of way line to the point and place of beginning;

Containing 70 square feet of land, more or less;

Being also known as part of Lot 13.01 in Block 30 as shown on the Tax Maps for the Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County;

TOGETHER WITH, any ownership, reversionary or associated right, title and interest that the owner may have in the right of way of Route 33 (1953) contiguous to the above described premises as shown on the aforesaid map;

SUBJECT HOWEVER, to all public utility easements, recorded or unrecorded, affecting the herein described premises;

The above-described premises are color coded on "Exhibit B" in the following manner:

Red – Fee Parcel Line.

Hightstown Borough Council  
September 8, 2026 Meeting  
Exhibit B

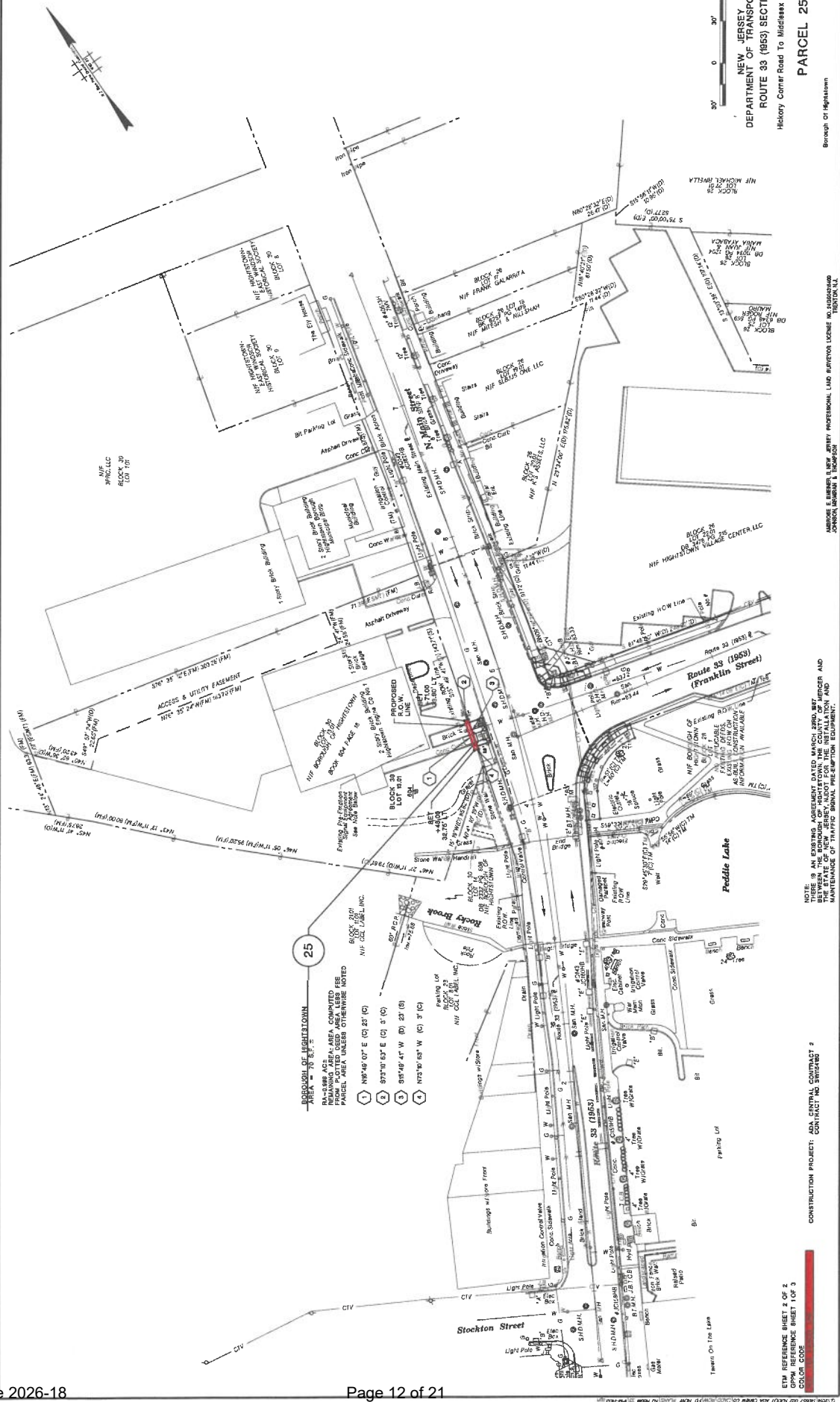
14

REVISION OR AMENDMENT:  
BY: [Signature]  
DATE: [Date]  
REASON: [Reason]

OWN BY: Johnson, Norman & Thompson, Inc.

Ordinance 2026-18

Page 12 of 21



CORPORATE RESOLUTION

I, \_\_\_\_\_, President of Borough of Hightstown do hereby certify that a meeting of the Directors of said Corporation, duly called and held at its principal office, \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at which a quorum was present, the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved that this Corporation will sell for the sum of \$6,000.00 (Six Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents) to the State of New Jersey, all that certain parcel known as Parcel 25

(Route 33, Section 3 ) and as per the terms of an agreement of sale between the parties.

Be it further resolved, that the President, \_\_\_\_\_, of said Corporation is an Officer and is authorized to execute any instruments necessary in connection with the sale of this property.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

FRANCIS K. O'CONNOR  
Commissioner

TAHESHA L. WAY  
Lt. Governor

April 30, 2025

Borough of Hightstown  
156 Bank Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520

Re: Offer for Fee Taking

ADA Central Contract 2  
Route: 33      Section: 3  
Parcel: 25  
Owner: Borough of Hightstown  
Street Address: 140 N. Main Street, Hightstown, NJ; Block 30, Lot 13.01  
Project: Hickory Corner Road to Middlesex County Line

To whom it may concern:

It is the understanding of the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") that the above-referenced portion of your property is owned by you. The property is located within the proposed site of the planned construction and is being acquired by NJDOT in accordance with the Eminent Domain Act.

The value of the property to be acquired by NJDOT is appraised according to law by a competent real estate appraiser to determine its Fair Market Value. Based on the appraisal, which NJDOT has obtained, NJDOT has established its estimate of just compensation (\$2,000.00) for the portion of the property being impacted. This amount is considered by NJDOT to be the Fair Market Value of the property to be acquired.

For your analysis and to assist you in better understanding of NJDOT's offer, enclosed is a copy of the appraisal report of your property that was prepared by Jerome J. McHale, MAI. The appraisal report provides the applicable comparable sales that were relied on by the appraiser and explains the valuation methods and procedures employed in arriving at the determination of value.

"IMPROVING LIVES BY IMPROVING TRANSPORTATION"

New Jersey Is An Equal Opportunity Employer • Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

The components of NJDOT's offer are as follows:

| <u>Land</u><br>(Fee parcel) | <u>Improvements</u><br>in fee parcel | Damages (to remainder); Easements;<br>Improvements outside of fee parcel | <b>Total Fair Market<br/>Value</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| \$1,000.00                  | \$1,000.00                           | \$0.00                                                                   | \$2,000.00                         |

The following improvements are located in the taking area and are considered to be realty: Grass, concrete sidewalk, concrete curbing and brick pavers

The following items have been determined to be personal property and will be relocated pursuant to NJDOT's relocation procedures: N/A

The environmental consultant for the ADA Central Contract 2 Project, conducted an environmental screening of your property on August 25, 2022. Based on NJDOT's environmental screening of your property, there appears to be no reason for further investigation of any clean-up or remediation as required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. If you know of any contamination or suspect that any is present on your property, it is essential that you provide NJDOT with any information you have about the environmental condition of your property so that a proper and fair appraisal may be made.

It is NJDOT's position that, under state law, NJDOT is not responsible for the cleanup and remediation and removal of any contamination or solid waste which occurred or began prior to the date of vesting of title and possession as provided by the Spill Compensation and Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11g.d(4). (A copy of this statute will be provided upon request.) It also should be understood that the NJDOT's acquisition of your property does not in any way affect the jurisdiction of NJDEP over your property and does not bind NJDEP in any way. If any contamination or solid waste should be discovered on your property during construction of the proposed transportation project, you will be notified orally or in writing. NJDOT would then seek reimbursement from you for the costs incurred to remediate the property. Whether the purchase of your property is accomplished through agreement or through condemnation proceedings, the respective documents will contain language stating NJDOT's position regarding your environmental responsibility as the current owner as discussed above. Copies of the environmental provisions in the standard purchase agreement and condemnation complaint are enclosed for your information.

In the event the purchase of your property can be accomplished through agreement, you will be asked to sign an Agreement of Sale which will then be submitted to the Commissioner of Transportation for approval. There shall be no binding agreement until the Commissioner or his designated representative executes the Agreement of Sale. Enclosed for your reference is a standard Agreement of Sale which contains provisions required by NJDOT.

If you have any questions regarding the offer to purchase the property on the enclosed map or regarding any condition of purchase, please contact the following Consultant Negotiator:

Dominic Palladino  
Real Property Specialist  
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson  
1200 Lenox Dr. Suite 101  
Trenton, NJ 08648  
o- 609-512-3943  
[dpalladino@jmt.com](mailto:dpalladino@jmt.com)

Very truly yours,



Valerie D. Brown  
Realty Specialist 4  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Division of Right of Way  
1035 Parkway Avenue, CN 600  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Receipt of offer letter acknowledged by owner:

---

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Execution of this letter by the property owner or their authorized representative is only for the purpose of showing proof of receipt of the original copy. It is NOT considered to be an acceptance of the offer on the part of the signatory.*

**CLAUSE A - NO CONTAMINATION DETECTED**

6. The amount of compensation offered by plaintiff to the property owner is \$2,000.00, which amount assumes that the property is free of contamination or has been remediated. This amount was calculated in the manner set forth in Exhibit C, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

7. Plaintiff hereby reserves any and all rights it has or may have to recover in a separate action or by any administrative means, against defendant property owner or any third parties, for release of the funds retained in the Superior Court Trust Fund and for reimbursement of all costs of remediation and/or cleanup of contamination and/or removal of solid waste and/or sanitary landfill closure that have been or may be incurred in the future by reason of conditions which were in existence as of or prior to the date of vesting of title and possession pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:3-19. Plaintiff further reserves the right to seek, at its sole discretion, any and all available legal, administrative and equitable remedies to compel defendants to remediate and/or clean up the property in accordance with applicable state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions or to remove solid waste or carry out closure of a sanitary landfill if located on the subject property. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11g.d(4), plaintiff is not liable for the cleanup and removal costs of any discharge which occurred or began prior to New Jersey Department of Transportation's ownership. Plaintiff does not accept any liability for pre-existing contamination and/or solid waste, whether now known or subsequently discovered.

8. Plaintiff has caused the subject property to be inspected for the existence of contamination and/or solid waste and has found no indication of contamination and/or solid waste which would require that further investigation or other affirmative action be undertaken in accordance with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection guidelines and regulations. The owner of record has not provided to plaintiff any information that would necessitate further investigation of the subject property. Plaintiff has provided notice to the owner of record of the property as to the results of the above-referenced inspection (Exhibit C). Furthermore, plaintiff has valued the property as if it has been remediated in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements and subject to the imposition of any conditions as to use except as noted in the appraisal and subject to paragraph 7 above.

Notwithstanding the results of plaintiff's inspection, plaintiff does not accept liability for any pre-existing contamination or solid waste, known or unknown, except for the project costs of on-site remediation at known levels. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the complaint if additional or higher levels of contamination or solid waste are subsequently discovered within the subject property and to move for appropriate relief under law and equity, including but not limited to, seeking an order that the Clerk of the Superior Court shall not release any funds remaining on deposit until the additional or higher levels of contamination are remediated and/or cleaned up by the owner of record or until any solid waste is properly removed or closure is performed by the owner of record in accordance with applicable state and federal standards, and to move for any other relief, including administrative relief, which may be necessary to protect plaintiff's rights and interests.

*Note: Execution of this letter by the property owner or their authorized representative is only for the purpose of showing proof of receipt of the original copy. It is NOT considered to be an acceptance of the offer on the part of the signatory.*

Page 4

|                                                                                   |                                                                   |                             |                       |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
|  | <b>STATE OF NEW JERSEY</b><br><b>PAYMENT VOUCHER</b><br>(INVOICE) | MACSE<br>DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | ACTG<br>PER           | FY         |
|                                                                                   |                                                                   |                             |                       |            |
|                                                                                   |                                                                   |                             |                       |            |
|                                                                                   | PV DATE                                                           | PP START<br>MO DY YR        | SCHED PAY<br>MO DY YR | CHK<br>CAT |

|   |    |    |                         |
|---|----|----|-------------------------|
| F | RF | CK | (A) VENDOR<br>ID NUMBER |
| A | TY | FL |                         |

|                                                                  |                   |                   |                                                                             |                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Agreement Date (B)                                               | Agreement No. (B) | Contract ID # (B) | <b>PAYEE: SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR<br/>COMPLETING ITEMS<br/>(A) THROUGH (H)</b> | <b>C TOTAL AMOUNT</b><br>\$6,000.00 |
| (D) PAYEE NAME AND ADDRESS                                       |                   |                   | (E) SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:                                                 |                                     |
| Borough of Hightstown<br>156 Bank Street<br>Hightstown, NJ 08520 |                   |                   | NJDOT                                                                       |                                     |

(F) PAYEE DECLARATIONS

I CERTIFY THAT THE WITHIN PAYMENT VOUCHER IS CORRECT IN ALL ITS PARTICULARS. THAT THE DESCRIBED GOODS OR SERVICES >>>> HAVE BEEN RENDERED AND THAT NO BONUS HAS BEEN GIVEN OR RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF SAID DOCUMENT. By submitting this invoice and payment voucher with electronic signatures, Payee acknowledges that the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") and Payee will accept and submit electronic signatures in connection with the submission of payment vouchers/invoices. Both Parties acknowledge the right to opt-out of this arrangement and can request hard copies of the applicable documents to sign and review upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. Payee agrees that the NJDOT reserves the right to refuse to conduct other transactions by means of electronic signatures.

|            |                        |                            |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| LINE<br>NO | REFERENCE              | (G) PAYEE REFERENCE NUMBER |
|            | O/R AGY FAO/FRA # LINE |                            |
| 1          |                        | 33-3-25                    |
| 2          |                        |                            |
| 3          |                        |                            |

|      |      |          |           |               |             |               |               |
|------|------|----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| FUND | AGCY | ORG CODE | APPR UNIT | ACTIVITY CODE | OBJECT CODE | CFS PROJECT # | REPT CATEGORY |
| 1    |      |          |           |               |             |               |               |
| 2    |      |          |           |               |             |               |               |
| 3    |      |          |           |               |             |               |               |

|                              |        |     |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REFERENCE # | AMOUNT | I/D |
| 1                            |        |     |
| 2                            |        |     |
| 3                            |        |     |

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| COST INCURRED<br>DATES (H) | CONTRACT DESCRIPTION (H)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | AMOUNT            |
|                            | <b>Payment due for Fee Taking</b><br><b>ADA Central Contract 2</b><br><b>Route: 33 Section: 3</b><br><b>Parcel: 25</b><br><b>Owner: Borough of Hightstown</b><br><b>Job#: 2207152</b><br><b>Fed. Project # STBGP-D00S (458)</b><br><b>FMIS # Z24ED00S458</b> | \$6,000.00        |
|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|                            | <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>\$6,000.00</b> |

|                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CERTIFICATION BY RECEIVING AGENCY: I certify that the above services have been rendered in accordance with the contract agreement. | CERTIFICATION BY APPROVAL OFFICER: I certify that this Payment Voucher is correct and just and payment is approved. |
| Signature                                                                                                                          | Authorized Signature -Accounting                                                                                    |
| Print Name/Title                                                                                                                   | Print Name/Title                                                                                                    |
| Date                                                                                                                               | Date                                                                                                                |

PV (C) 6/08

Form revised Aug 4, 2006

**RIGHT OF ENTRY**

(To be used when negotiations are being conducted)

**Route: 33    Section: 3    Parcel(s): 25**

**Project: ADA Central Contract 2**

**Owner: Borough of Hightstown**

**To:    New Jersey Department of Transportation**

In cooperation with the State, the Owner grants permission to enter upon the listed parcel(s) for the purpose of Sidewalk Work as depicted on Exhibit B. The Owner hereby acknowledges that it voluntarily relinquishes its known right to immediate payment on vacating of the premises with this right of entry.

It is understood that the State recognizes the cooperation of the Owner in granting this voluntary permission of entry, and it is further understood that the State will proceed promptly with negotiations, so that a settlement based on a fair market value and just price can be reached, or in the event a settlement is not reached, to promptly institute Eminent Domain proceedings, so that a fair and just reward can be rendered by a neutral commission as soon as possible.

Subject to the provisions of the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:1-1 et seq., and the availability of funds, the Department of Transportation will be responsible for personal injuries and property damage caused by the negligent acts of the Department, its employees and officials which occur on the property identified in this agreement. Any claim for such personal injury or property damage must be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 59:8-1 et seq.

The Owner shall not be relieved of any legal obligations resulting from the presence of contamination on the property, as of the date of closing or the date of vacation of the property by all occupants, whichever is later.

Owner or Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Program Manager, Right of Way

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR STATE OF NEW JERSEY W-9/QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-PROCUREMENT VENDORS**

The enclosed form is required by the State of New Jersey's Comprehensive Financial System and must be completed by non-procurement vendors/payees who intend to do business with the State of New Jersey. New Jersey State employees who are seeking reimbursement for travel or training expenses must register through Employee Self Service. Procurement vendors **SHOULD NOT** complete this form but should register at [NJSTART.GOV](http://NJSTART.GOV). Procurement vendors include vendors who sell goods or provide a service (including healthcare and legal services). Please answer ALL questions and print clearly. If you have questions or need assistance completing the form, please contact vendor control at [aaiunit@treas.nj.gov](mailto:aaiunit@treas.nj.gov). Vendors should complete ALL parts of the form. NOTE: Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

Select the appropriate action that you are requesting. For payees that are registering for the first time, select 'Establish New Vendor.' For payees that have been previously established within the accounting system and want to add or change a remittance address, select the appropriate box.

**PART I. REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND CERTIFICATION**

Part One is a W-9 form as required by the Internal Revenue Service to verify the name, address, and federal identification number for vendor/payees who may receive a 1099.

Questions 1-4:

If there is no preprinted data, populate the form with the vendor/payee's name (as shown on your tax return), address, city, state, zip code, and Taxpayer Identification Number. Sign and date the form under question number six.

If the form contains preprinted data and the preprinted information is correct, sign and date the form under question six.

If the form contains preprinted data and the preprinted information is not correct, cross out the incorrect data and make any changes immediately to the right of the preprinted information. Sign and date the form under question six.

Question 5: If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space any code(s) that may apply to you (See IRS Form W-9 instructions for codes).

Question 6: Sign and date the form.

**PART II. VENDOR/PAYEE DATA: STATE OF NEW JERSEY VENDOR/PAYEE INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Enter the code that best describes the primary business function from the choices provided.

2. Print the name, phone number, and e-mail address of the primary contact person for the vendor listed in Part One.

*If you manage a Confidential Fund or a Petty Cash Fund for a State agency, do not answer the remaining portion of the questionnaire (Questions three and four).*

3. Enter the code that best describes your organization from the choices provided.

**SUBMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY W-9/QUESTIONNAIRE**

Mail or email completed forms to :

OMB-Vendor Control Unit  
PO Box 221  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0221  
Email: [aaiunit@treas.nj.gov](mailto:aaiunit@treas.nj.gov)

**ACCESSING YOUR ACCOUNT INFORMATION**

Details regarding specific payments, similar to a check stub, may be obtained over the internet through the Vendor Payment Inquiry (VPI) system. To access VPI, users must first create a 'MyNewJersey' portal account.

Begin by logging onto the State of New Jersey's web page, [NJ.GOV](http://NJ.GOV) and creating a log in and password (click on the 'Sign Up' link under the 'Login' tab). Once the 'MyNewJersey' portal account has been established, users will have to sign up for the VPI application by clicking the 'enroll here' button on our website, [https://www.tyomb.nj.gov/TYM\\_VPI/home](https://www.tyomb.nj.gov/TYM_VPI/home).

The online tutorial for VPI can be found at [https://www.tyomb.nj.gov/treasury/omb/TYM\\_VPI/docs/GettingStarted.pdf](https://www.tyomb.nj.gov/treasury/omb/TYM_VPI/docs/GettingStarted.pdf). VPI provides two years of historical data (such as issuing agency, payee reference, payment amount, payment date, etc) and allows for the review of scheduled payments.

☒ Establish New Vendor      ☐ Establish Additional Remittance Address      ☐ Change Remittance Address

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**W-9/QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-PROCUREMENT VENDORS**

THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO ESTABLISH YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND TAXPAYER ID ON STATE RECORDS. THE INFORMATION IS USED TO POPULATE AND MAINTAIN THE STATE'S VENDOR/PAYEE FILE AND MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE PAYMENTS ARE MADE.

**NOTE: PROCUREMENT VENDORS SHOULD NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM BUT SHOULD REGISTER AT NJSTART.GOV.**

**IMPORTANT: YOU WILL NOT BE PAID BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY UNTIL THIS FORM IS COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND RETURNED. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION EMAIL: AAIUNIT@TREAS.NJ.GOV.**

**Return completed form to:**  
**OMB Vendor Control**  
**PO BOX 221**  
**Trenton, NJ 08625 -0221 or**  
**Email: aaiunit@treas.nj.gov**

**PART I. REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND CERTIFICATION**

1. **Name (as shown on your tax return):**

**Borough of Hightstown**

**Doing business as (if different than name):**

2. **Address:**

**156 Bank Street**

3. **City: Hightstown**

**State: NJ**

**Zip: 08520**

If the above contains preprinted data that is incorrect, cross it out and write the correct information immediately next to it.

4. **Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)** Enter your TIN below and check the type of number listed.

**216000721**

☐ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

☒ EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

5. **Exemptions** (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see IRS Form W-9 instructions page 3):

Exempt payee code (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

6. **Certification:** Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- (1) The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
  - (2) I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
  - (3) I am a U.S. citizen or other US person as defined by the IRS.
- Certification Instructions: You must cross out item (2) above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because of underreported interest or dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item (2) does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an IRA, and generally payments other than interest or dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN.

|           |           |      |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| Sign Here | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|

**PART II. VENDOR/PAYEE DATA: STATE OF NEW JERSEY VENDOR/PAYEE INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

**NOTE: PROCUREMENT VENDORS SHOULD REGISTER AT NJSTART.GOV.**

1. Enter the code from the list below that best describes your primary business function:

☒ C ☒ M

**NON-PROCUREMENT PAYEES:**

AC=AUTHORITY/COMMISSION    CF=CONFIDENTIAL FUND    PC=PETTY CASH    SD=SCHOOL DISTRICT    FA=FEDERAL AGENCY    FD=FIRE DISTRICT  
 CM=COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY    SA=STATE AGENCY    WB=WELFARE BOARD    CU=STATE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

**OTHER PAYEES:**

OT=OTHER VENDOR (PLEASE SPECIFY - REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Primary Contact Information (ALL FIELDS ARE REQUIRED):**

Name: **John Francis Roman** Phone: **609-490-5100 ext 620** Email: **administrator@hightstownborough.com**

☐ Please check here if you are interested in receiving information about payments by direct deposit.

IF YOU ARE A NJ MANAGER OF A CONFIDENTIAL FUND OR PETTY CASH FUND, DO NOT ANSWER THE BALANCE OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

3. Enter the code from the list below that best describes your organization

☒ G

C=CORPORATION    I=INDIVIDUAL    P=PARTNERSHIP    L= LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY    G=GOVERNMENT

**IMPORTANT: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS (PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE)**

NJ W9 rev 07/24

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Ordinance 2026-19

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF  
\$130,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO DUTCH NECK ROAD IN AND BY THE  
BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, AND  
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$130,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE  
BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
HIGHTSTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of  
all members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance has  
heretofore been authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Hightstown, in the County of  
Mercer, New Jersey (the "Borough"), as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose  
described in Section 3(a), there is hereby appropriated the supplemental amount of \$130,000, such  
sum being in addition to the \$580,000 appropriated therefor by Bond Ordinance #2025-13 of the  
Borough, finally adopted September 15, 2025 (the "Original Bond Ordinance"). Pursuant to  
N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c), no down payment is required for the cost of the improvement or purpose  
described in Section 3(a) since the improvement or purpose was partially funded by a grant in the  
amount of \$550,000 received from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation as  
described in the Original Bond Ordinance.

Section 2. In order to finance the additional cost of the improvement or purpose,  
negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$130,000 pursuant  
to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation  
notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the  
Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvement heretofore authorized and the purpose for the  
financing of which the bonds are to be issued is improvements to Dutch Neck Road, including, but

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Ordinance 2026-19

not limited to, the installation of a new sidewalk, the construction of curbs and the relocation of utility poles, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto, as described in the Original Bond Ordinance.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or bond anticipation notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is \$710,000, including the \$580,000 authorized by the Original Bond Ordinance and the \$130,000 bonds or bond anticipation notes authorized herein.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is \$710,000, including the \$580,000 appropriated by the Original Bond Ordinance and the \$130,000 appropriated herein.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date, unless such bond anticipation notes mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Ordinance 2026-19

description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Borough hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

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

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 10 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$130,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Ordinance 2026-19

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$100,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement. Of this amount, \$100,000 was estimated for these items of expense in the Original Bond Ordinance and no additional amount is estimated therefor herein.

Section 7. The Borough hereby makes the following covenants and declarations with respect to obligations determined to be issued by the chief financial officer on a tax-exempt basis. The Borough hereby covenants that it will comply with any conditions subsequent imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), in order to preserve the exemption from taxation of interest on the obligations, including, if necessary, the requirement to rebate all net investment earnings on the gross proceeds above the yield on the obligations. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Borough to deem the obligations authorized herein as bank-qualified for the purposes of Section 265 of the Code, when appropriate. The Borough hereby declares the intent of the Borough to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the cost of the purpose described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Borough is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Borough and to execute such disclosure document

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Ordinance 2026-19

on behalf of the Borough. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Borough pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Borough and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Borough fails to comply with its undertaking, the Borough shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Introduction:

Adoption:

---

Margaret Riggio  
Borough Clerk

---

Susan Bluth  
Mayor

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-188

**RE-APPOINTING SETH A. KURS AS MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

**WHEREAS**, Judge Seth A. Kurs currently serves as Municipal Court Judge and his term is set to expire on October 1, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to reappoint Judge Kurs for a subsequent three-year term in accordance with the provisions of article 2-24-2 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Seth A. Kurs, of Hightstown, New Jersey, is hereby reappointed as Municipal Court Judge effective October 2, 2026 for a three-year term ending October 1, 2029.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-189

**AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS GRANT FOR  
IMPROVEMENTS TO A PUBLIC FACILITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$250,000.00, to carry out a project of Improvements to Public Facility, Borough Hall Acquisition and Renovation.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,**

- 1) that the Borough of Hightstown does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
- 2) recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Borough of Hightstown and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

1. Susan Bluth, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_
2. Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk \_\_\_\_\_
3. John Francis Roman, Borough Administrator \_\_\_\_\_
4. Donna Condo, CFO \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Margaret Riggio, the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Hightstown, hereby certify that at a meeting of the Governing Body held on September 8, 2026, the above Resolution was duly adopted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Riggio, RMC/CMC

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-190

**AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY KNOWN  
AS BLOCK 9, LOT 39, GRANT AVENUE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown is the owner of certain real property located on Grant Avenue and designated on the Borough Tax Map as Block 9, Lot 39 (the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough acquired title to the Property through an in rem tax foreclosure proceeding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body has determined that the Property is no longer needed for public use or municipal purposes and is therefore surplus municipal property; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), a municipality may sell real property that is not needed for public use by open public sale at auction to the highest bidder following the advertisement required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.1 provides that the sale of municipal real property not needed for public use by public sale to the highest bidder pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) may be authorized by resolution of the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body desires to authorize the Borough Clerk/Qualified Purchasing Agent to commence the process necessary to advertise and offer the Property for sale at public auction in accordance with applicable law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Governing Body hereby determines and declares that the real property located on Grant Avenue and designated as Block 9, Lot 39 on the Borough Tax Map is not needed for public use or municipal purposes and is hereby declared surplus municipal property.
2. The sale of the Property by open public sale at auction to the highest bidder is hereby authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) and N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.1.
3. The Borough Clerk/Qualified Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized and directed to commence the public sale process, including preparing the appropriate conditions of sale, establishing an auction date, and advertising the Property for public auction in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 and all other applicable laws and regulations.
4. The Borough reserves the right to establish a minimum bid, impose lawful terms and conditions upon the sale, and reject any and all bids, as may be determined by the Governing Body and permitted by law.

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-190

5. Any final acceptance of the highest bid and authorization to convey title to the Property shall be subject to subsequent action of the Governing Body as required by law.
6. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney, Qualified Purchasing Agent, and other appropriate Borough officials are authorized to take all actions reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-191

**RESOLUTION DECLARING BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 220-222  
ACADEMY STREET, BLOCK 40, LOT 21, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED  
FOR PUBLIC USE AND AUTHORIZING THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE  
DISPOSITION PROCESS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown is the owner of certain real property commonly known as 220-222 Academy Street, and designated on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Hightstown as Block 40, Lot 21 (the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough acquired title to the Property through an in rem tax foreclosure proceeding conducted pursuant to the In Rem Tax Foreclosure Act, N.J.S.A. 54:5-104.29 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property is located within an Area in Need of Redevelopment designated by the Borough pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq., a municipality may dispose of real property that is no longer needed for public use in accordance with the procedures established by law; and

**WHEREAS**, specifically, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 authorizes a municipality to sell real property or interests therein that are not needed for public use, including by open public sale at auction to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a); and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.1 provides that the sale of municipal real property not needed for public use by public sale to the highest bidder pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) may be authorized by resolution of the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 also permits the private sale of municipal property to a private developer when the municipality is acting in accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council have determined that the Property is not presently needed for municipal or other public use and that retaining the Property serves no current municipal operational purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council further find that the disposition and future redevelopment of the Property in a manner consistent with the applicable redevelopment plan would further the Borough's redevelopment objectives and serve the public interest;

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-191

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough-owned real property commonly known as 220-222 Academy Street, Block 40, Lot 21, is hereby determined to be surplus municipal property that is no longer needed for public use.
2. The Mayor and Council hereby authorize the Borough Clerk/Qualified Purchasing Agent, in consultation with the Borough Administrator, Borough Attorney, Redevelopment Counsel, Borough Engineer and such other professionals as may be necessary, to commence the process necessary for the disposition of the Property in accordance with applicable law.
3. The Borough Administrator is authorized to obtain or coordinate any appraisals, title information, surveys, environmental information, property descriptions, redevelopment information, notices, advertisements and other documentation reasonably necessary to prepare the Property for disposition.
4. Because the Property is situated within an Area in Need of Redevelopment, the appropriate method of disposition shall be determined in accordance with the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq., the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., the applicable redevelopment plan, and all other applicable laws and regulations.
5. Nothing contained herein shall constitute final approval of a purchaser, redeveloper, purchase price or terms of sale. Any final disposition of the Property shall be subject to such further action and approval of the Mayor and Council as may be required by law.
6. The Borough reserves the right to impose appropriate conditions, restrictions and redevelopment requirements upon the disposition and future use of the Property to ensure consistency with the applicable redevelopment plan and the Borough's redevelopment objectives.
7. The Borough Clerk/Qualified Purchasing Agent and all other appropriate Borough officials and professionals are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-192

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ENGINEER TO REQUEST AN  
ADDITIONAL SIX-MONTH AWARD EXTENSION FROM THE NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE GRANT  
RECEIVED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BROAD STREET, VAN RENSALLAR  
AVENUE, AND MANLOVE AVENUE**

**WHEREAS**, on or about November 2024, the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") awarded the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") a municipal aid grant in the amount of \$327,288.00 for Improvements to Broad Street, Van Rensaller Avenue and Manlove Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, under the terms of the municipal aid grant, the Borough is required to make an award of a contract to complete the project on or before November 13, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the project has been delayed as a result of delays due to ongoing review by the NJ Infrastructure Bank. As the Borough is in the process of securing approval, the NJDOT funded contract must be delayed by 6-months.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the Borough Engineer, Roberts Engineering Group, LLC, is hereby authorized to request an extension from the New Jersey Department of Transportation in connection with the Borough's municipal aid grant in the amount of \$327,288.00 for FY2025.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Mayor, Council-President, and Roberts Engineering Group, LLC.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

|            | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| CICALESE   |     |    |         |        |
| FOWLER     |     |    |         |        |
| FRANTZ     |     |    |         |        |
| GULATI     |     |    |         |        |
| MONTFERRAT |     |    |         |        |
| SPANN      |     |    |         |        |



# Roberts

ENGINEERING GROUP LLC

1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Rd.  
Hamilton, New Jersey 08690  
609-586-1141 fax 609-586-1143  
[www.RobertsEngineeringGroup.com](http://www.RobertsEngineeringGroup.com)

September 2, 2026

John Francis Roman, Borough Administrator  
Borough of Hightstown  
156 Bank Street  
Hightstown, New Jersey 08520  
Email: [administrator@hightstownborough.com](mailto:administrator@hightstownborough.com)

Re: Improvements to Broad Street, Van Renssaler Avenue,  
and Manlove Avenue Dead-End  
Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County, New Jersey  
Our File No.: H1808

Dear John:

As you know, the Borough received funding through the NJDOT Municipal Aid program for the improvements to Broad Street, Van Renssaler Avenue, and Manlove Avenue contract in the amount of \$327,288.00. This funding requires that a contract be awarded no later than November 13, 2026. Roberts Engineering Group was authorized to start design on June 1, 2026.

The project includes water main improvements which are to be funded through the NJ Infrastructure Bank (NJIB). However, I anticipate that approval from the NJIB will not be obtained until after the November 13, 2026 deadline.

As the loan application process is lengthy, I recommend that the Borough request a 6-month extension from the NJDOT for awarding a contract for the Improvements to Broad Street, Van Renssaler Avenue, and Manlove Avenue project as is allowable by the NJDOT State Aid Handbook at the next available Council Meeting. Once a resolution is passed, please provide to this office so that we may submit to the NJDOT on behalf of the Borough.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact this office.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron Corini', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cameron Corini, PE, CME, CPWM  
Borough Engineer

cc: Mayor and Council  
Mairead Thompson, Borough Assistant Business Administrator  
Peggy Riggio, RMC, CMR, Borough Clerk/Purchasing Agent/Registrar  
Ken Lewis, Borough Superintendent of Public Works  
Kelly Pham, EIT, Roberts Engineering Group, LLC

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-193

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF  
REVENUE IN THE 2026 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87  
(CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) 2026 DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER  
STATEWIDE LABOR DAY CRACKDOWN**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown has received notification of the award of funds in the amount of \$7,000.00 from the State of New Jersey – 2026 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown hereby request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of a special item of revenue and equal appropriation in the budget of the Borough of Hightstown for the year 2026 as follows: \$7,000.00 from the State of New Jersey – 2026 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-194

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF  
REVENUE IN THE 2026 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87  
(CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) MERCER COUNTY TRAIL REHABILITATION  
PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown has received notification of the award of funds in the amount of \$142,150.00 from Mercer County Trail Rehabilitation Program - Roger C. Cook Greenway Rehabilitation project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown hereby request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of a special item of revenue and equal appropriation in the budget of the Borough of Hightstown for the year 2026 as follows: \$142,150.00 from Mercer County Trail Rehabilitation Program - Roger C. Cook Greenway Rehabilitation project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-195

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF  
REVENUE IN THE 2026 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87  
(CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY  
AFFAIRS – PUBLIC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS 2027**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown has received notification of the award of funds in the amount of \$250,000 from the Department of Community Affairs, Public Facility Improvements 2027 – Borough Hall Acquisition and Renovation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown hereby request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of a special item of revenue and equal appropriation in the budget of the Borough of Hightstown for the year 2026 as follows: \$250,000 from the Department of Community Affairs, Public Facility Improvements 2027 – Borough Hall Acquisition and Renovation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-196

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE HIRE OF WALTER CURRENT AS DPW  
LABORER FOR THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN**

**WHEREAS**, Walter Current has been hired to serve as DPW Laborer for the Borough of Hightstown effective August 25, 2026, and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Borough Council desire to formally confirm said hire and acknowledge the service of Walter Current to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, compensation and benefits shall be in accordance with the Borough Salary Ordinance and/or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The hire of Walter Current as a DPW Laborer for the Borough of Hightstown is hereby confirmed effective August 25, 2026.
2. The Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the appropriate Borough officials.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-197

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN OPEN MIC NIGHT ORGANIZED BY THE  
HIGHTSTOWN BOROUGH CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Cultural Arts Commission is a recognized commission of Hightstown Borough pursuant to Article 2-48 entitled “Cultural Arts” of “The Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown”; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the obligations of the Cultural Arts Commission as set forth in the in Article 2-48 is to sponsor artistic activities for the benefit of the Hightstown Community; and

**WHEREAS**, one such activity planned and sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission will an Open Mic Night; and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Mic Night will take place September 25, 2026 at the Peddie School’s Ding Music Hall.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown approve the open mic night as a Hightstown Borough sponsored and covered event and look forward to another successful community event organized by the Cultural Arts Commission.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-198

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS PUBLIC  
OFFICER AND DIRECTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ABANDONED  
PROPERTY LIST**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hightstown has adopted Article 14-11, entitled “Abandoned Property,” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown, establishing procedures for the identification, listing, remediation and rehabilitation of abandoned properties within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 14-11 is intended to address properties that meet the definition of abandoned property under the Borough Code and applicable provisions of N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 14-11-1 of the Borough Code defines the “Public Officer” as a person designated or appointed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.5, or any municipal officer qualified to carry out the responsibilities established under N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq., as designated by resolution of the governing body; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 14-11-3 of the Borough Code, the governing body may direct the Public Officer to identify abandoned property for the purpose of establishing an abandoned property list throughout the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 14-11-3 further provides that the Public Officer shall establish and maintain an “Abandoned Property List,” which shall identify each abandoned property by tax block and lot number, the name of the owner of record, if known, and the street address of the property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council have determined that establishing and maintaining an Abandoned Property List will assist the Borough in addressing properties that negatively impact the health, safety, welfare and economic well-being of the Borough and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1.** The Borough Code Enforcement Officer is hereby designated as the Public Officer for purposes of Article 14-11 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown and N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq., and is authorized to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Public Officer thereunder.
- 2.** The Mayor and Council hereby direct the Public Officer to identify properties throughout the Borough of Hightstown that meet the applicable criteria for designation as abandoned property pursuant to Article 14-11 of the Borough Code and applicable State law.

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-198

3. The Public Officer is hereby directed to establish and thereafter maintain an Abandoned Property List in accordance with Section 14-11-3 of the Borough Code.
4. For each property placed on the Abandoned Property List, the list shall include, to the extent known or ascertainable, the tax block and lot number, name of the owner of record, and street address of the property.
5. The Public Officer shall provide all notices required by Section 14-11-3 of the Borough Code and applicable State law to property owners, lienholders and other parties entitled to notice and shall take the actions necessary to establish and maintain the Abandoned Property List.
6. The Public Officer is authorized to consult and coordinate with the Borough Clerk, Tax Collector, Construction Official, Fire Official, Police Department, Borough Attorney and other Borough officials and professionals as may be reasonably necessary to identify abandoned properties and administer the Abandoned Property List.
7. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a determination by the Mayor and Council that any particular property is abandoned. Individual properties shall be evaluated and designated in accordance with the criteria and procedures established by Article 14-11 of the Borough Code and applicable State law.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on September 8, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hightstown  
County of Mercer

Resolution 2026-199

**AUTHORIZING A MEETING WHICH EXCLUDES THE PUBLIC**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that this body will hold a meeting on September 8, 2026, at the Hightstown Firehouse Hall, 140 North Main Street, that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed:

Real property

Contract Negotiations

Stated as precisely as presently possible the following is the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said meeting can be disclosed to the public December 8, 2026, or when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

The public is excluded from said meeting, and further notice is dispensed with, all in accordance with sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown at a meeting held on August 17, 2026.

---

Margaret Riggio, Borough Clerk