

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF AUDUBON PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY
HELD ON APRIL 6TH, 2026**

A regular meeting of Borough Council for the Borough of Audubon Park, was convened in the Audubon Park Town Center, 2 Road C, Audubon Park, NJ at 7:00 P.M on April 6th, 2026

Mayor Brian Burns called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Ryan Giles performs a roll call.

Councilwoman Foti	HERE
Councilman Goebel	HERE
Councilman Hassett	HERE
Councilwoman Lewis	HERE
Councilwoman Lowe	HERE
Councilwoman Paratore	HERE

Justin Strausser, Esq. was also present.

Ryan Giles, Clerk, announced this meeting was advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and complies with all the laws therein.

Ryan Giles asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held February 2nd, 2026.

Councilman Goebel makes a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held February 2nd, 2026.

Councilwoman Lowe seconds the motion

All members vote in favor

Motion Carries

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

ENGINEER'S REPORT -

Ryan Giles then moved on to the Engineer's Report, where he discussed upcoming projects as well as the Bond Ordinances scheduled to be introduced at the May meeting.

He noted that Ibis and Jackdaw are the next roads slated for improvements. Mr. Giles provided details regarding the bond ordinance, including the total borrowing amount and how funds would be allocated across the various projects. He also reviewed aspects of the pavilion project, including preliminary plans and potential materials for construction. He added that no bond ordinance was introduced in the previous year.

New Business

Ordinance #2026:02 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SALARIES TO BE PAID TO EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON PARK, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING THE VARIOUS POSITIONS, AMOUNTS OF SALARY AND TIME OF PAYMENT.

Ryan Giles ask for a motion to introduce Ordinances #2026-02

Motion to Introduce:

Councilwoman Lewis makes a motion to introduce Ordinance #2026:02

Councilwoman Paratore seconds the motion

Councilwoman Foti	YES
Councilman Goebel	YES
Councilman Hassett	YES
Councilwoman Lewis	YES
Councilwoman Lowe	YES
Councilwoman Paratore	YES

MOTION CARRIES: VOTE 6-0

#2026:02

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
SALARIES TO BE PAID TO THE EMPLOYEES OF THE
BOROUGH OF AUDUBON PARK, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, DESIGNATING THE VARIOUS POSITIONS, AMOUNTS OF SALARY
AND TIME OF PAYMENT**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Audubon Park, County of Camden and State of New Jersey, Section 1. of the aforesaid Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. The following salaries shall be paid at the time designated to the employees of the Borough of Audubon Park, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, who hold or are appointed to the positions enumerated below, beginning January 1, 2026, date of appointment or as specifically noted.

POSITION	PAYROLL PERIOD	2026 ANNUAL SALARY/RANGE
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REVENUE AND FINANCE

Deputy Municipal Clerk	Bi-weekly	\$40,000.00-\$45,000.00
Municipal Clerk Treasurer QPA Tax Collector	Annually	\$24,500 (Shared Service)
Office Assistant	Bi-weekly	\$17.00-\$19.00 per hour
CFO	Quarterly	\$24,500 (Shared Service)
Accounting Clerk	Bi-weekly	\$6,367.25
Communication/Social Media	Bi-weekly	\$3,000.00

PUBLIC SAFETY AND AFFAIRS

Registrar of Vital Statistics	Annual	\$2,080.80
Deputy Registrar	Annual	\$1,000.00
Fire Marshall	Bi-weekly	\$6,702.00
Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator	Quarterly	\$2,500.00
Crossing Guard/Substitute	Bi-weekly	\$17.00 per hour

LIBRARY

Librarians	Bi-weekly	\$17.00 per hour
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TAX ASSESSOR

Tax Assessor	Bi-annually	\$1,275.00
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PARKS

Municipal Recycling Coordinator "MRC"	Annually	\$1,000.00
Temporary Seasonal Helper	Bi-weekly	\$15.92 - \$19.00 per hour

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this amending Ordinance be and they are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies only.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its due passage and publication according to law.

Date of Introduction: April 6, 2026

Date of Adoption: May 4, 2026

Ryan Giles moves on to new business, He states the items listed below are considered to be routine by the Borough of Audubon Park and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Ryan Giles asked for a motion to accept Resolution #2026:40 - #2026:42

Councilwoman Paratore makes a motion to accept Resolutions #2026:40-#2026:42

Councilwoman Lowe seconds the motion

Councilwoman Foti	YES
Councilman Goebel	YES
Councilman Hassett	YES
Councilwoman Lewis	YES
Councilwoman Lowe	YES
Councilwoman Paratore	YES

MOTION CARRIES: VOTE 6-0

Ryan Giles asked for a motion to accept Resolution #2026:43

Councilwoman Foti makes a motion to accept Resolution #2026:43

Councilman Goebel seconds the motion.

Councilwoman Foti	YES
Councilman Goebel	YES
Councilman Hassett	YES
Councilwoman Lewis	YES
Councilwoman Lowe	YES
Councilwoman Paratore	YES

MOTION CARRIES: VOTE 6-0

Ryan Giles ask for a motion to open the floor to the public for discussion of the
Municipal Budget for 2026

Councilwoman Paratore makes a motion to open the floor to the public for discussion
of the Municipal Budget for 2026

Councilmember Goebel seconds the motion

All in Favor

Motion Carries

The floor is open to the public for discussion of the Municipal budget of 2026 only.

NO COMMENT

Councilman Goebel makes a motion to close the floor to the public

Councilwoman Lowe seconds the motion

All in Favor

Motion Carries

Councilwoman Paratore makes a motion to accept Resolution #2026:44

Councilman Goebel seconds the motion

Councilwoman Foti	YES
Councilman Goebel	YES
Councilman Hassett	YES
Councilwoman Lewis	YES
Councilwoman Lowe	YES
Councilwoman Paratore	YES

MOTION CARRIES: VOTE 6-0

Ryan Giles moves on to items of discussion. Council discussed the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony, which will take place on Monday, May 25th at 10:00 a.m. outside Borough Hall. Mayor Burns inquired about the quote for a flagpole, and Jamesen Jeffers stated she would follow up to obtain that information.

Ryan Giles then addressed summer hours. He explained that in previous years the Borough had been closed on Fridays, while last year the office remained open until 1:00 p.m. He asked the Council how they wished to proceed this year. Council discussed staffing concerns, including having only two people in the office and the possibility of relocating offices over the summer. Ultimately, they agreed to remain open until 1:00 p.m. on Fridays. Councilwoman Lowe made a motion to set summer hours from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Councilwoman Paratore seconded the motion, and it passed with all members in favor.

Ryan Giles then moved on to the topic of chickens. Councilwoman Lewis referenced the ordinance adopted the previous year and discussed sending letters to residents who currently have chickens. Council agreed to include additional information regarding chickens within the appropriate Council committee for further review.

Next, Mr. Giles discussed a donation request from APCC. APCC submitted a letter requesting a contribution for Fourth of July activities in an amount not to exceed \$1,500. Councilwoman Paratore made a motion to approve a donation to APCC not to exceed \$1,500.

Finally, Mr. Giles led a discussion regarding the preschool. The Mayor and Council reviewed available funding for a potential expansion and agreed to move forward with obtaining quotes related to relocating the program.

Ryan Giles moves on to bills & vouchers, we need a motion to pay all the bills and vouchers that are in order of \$268,755.90

Councilwoman Lewis makes a motion to accept bills & vouchers that are in order

Councilwoman Paratore seconds the motion

Ryan Giles calls the roll call

Councilwoman Foti	YES
Councilman Goebel	YES
Councilman Hassett	ABSENCE
Councilwoman Lewis	YES
Councilwoman Lowe	YES
Councilwoman Paratore	YES

Motions carries: Vote 5-0 Absence 1 Vote

Mayor Burns stated he would like to thank Officer Czajkowski for joining us tonight, he would like to also Thank the police officers for showing up to the Coffee with Council.

Ryan Giles moves on to the public portion, he states individuals must state their name and address for the record and respect the five-minute time limit while addressing the Governing Body. He ask for a motion to open to the public

Councilwoman Lowe makes a motion to open to the public

Councilman Goebel seconds the motion

All in favor

Motion carries

Floor is now open to the public

Rosemary Romeo of 13 Goldfinch, addressed Council regarding signage for the Library. She expressed interest in having a sign installed outside the Library to better indicate its location. Council discussed the request with her, including possible wording for the sign and the ability to update or modify the displayed hours as needed.

Councilwoman Lowe make a motion to close the floor to the public

Councilwoman Paratore seconds the motion

All in favor

Motion carries

Floor is now closed to the public

Ryan Giles moves on to Mayor and Council reports

Mayor Burns provided an update on the ball field, noting that he is scheduled to meet with the Engineer to review and address several minor outstanding items.

Councilwoman Paratore discussed the upcoming “Coffee with Council” event on April 18th, which will include Councilwoman Lewis, Councilwoman Lowe, and Mayor Burns as available representatives to speak with residents. She also highlighted a new book club event scheduled for May 7th featuring a local author. Additionally, she mentioned that the APCC and the book club are exploring the possibility of hosting a candy bar bingo event for children. She concluded by providing details on the community clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, April 11th.

Councilwoman Lowe spoke about APCC activities, noting that the recent sticky bun sale was successful. She added that a date is being considered for the next paint-and-sip event and that a bowling event is scheduled for April 26th at Westbrook Lanes.

Council then discussed pavilion plans, reviewing various design options and potential additional features. They also considered signage and the possibility of renting the pavilion for private events. Parking concerns were raised, as residents have expressed issues with the limited number of available spaces.

Discussion followed regarding the Hocking Rink next to the Community Hall, with Council questioning responsibility for its maintenance.

Councilman Goebel addressed the equipment stored in the sheds, prompting discussion about its overall value.

Council also discussed the potential transfer of a vehicle lease to the APFF.

Councilman Hassett raised concerns regarding the Annex building, outlining several issues currently present. Council discussed responsibility for maintenance of the building and requested that Deputy Clerk Jamesen look into the matter further.

Ryan Giles ask for a motion to adjourn

Councilwoman Lowe makes a motion to adjourn

Councilwoman Lowe seconds the motion

All in Favor

Motion Carries

Meeting is adjourned at 8:08pm