

**MINUTES
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2026**

Deputy Mayor McHugh called the Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham to order at 7:01 P.M.

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both *The Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 7, 2026; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 7, 2026; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 7, 2026.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Committeeman Alperowitz, Committeeman Choi and Deputy Mayor McHugh. Committeewoman Ewald arrived during Executive Session

Executive Session

**RESOLUTION 2026-P-01
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WITH THE
PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Attorney-Client Privilege
3. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matter of the Executive Session will be made public upon conclusion of the matter under discussion; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 4-13.
4. The Committee will come back into Regular Session and may take further action.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Committeeman Alperowitz moved to adopt Resolution 2026-P-01 to enter Executive Session at 7:02 PM. Committeeman Choi seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeeman Alperowitz, Aye; Committeeman Choi, Aye; Committeewoman Ewald, Absent; Deputy Mayor McHugh, Aye; Mayor Rowland, Absent.

The Township Committee returned to Public Session at 7:34 PM.

Deputy Mayor McHugh led the Flag Salute.

Hearing of Citizens

Deputy Mayor McHugh opened the Hearing of Citizens.

Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor McHugh closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Reports

Administration

Mr. Shehady reported that a resolution will be on the next meeting's agenda to ratify the appointment of a new administrative assistant for the Construction Department. There will also be a resolution to amend the pay rate for the SLEO officers. Mr. Shehady also stated that there will be an update to the LEMC appointments.

Clerk

Mr. Shehady said that a proposed ordinance will be put forward for introduction regarding lead paint inspections so that the Township can comply with State law.

Construction

Mr. Shehady said that ordinances will be on the next agenda for introduction to amend Construction Permit fees and Zoning Permit fees. These ordinances will include language to clarify some matters.

Mr. Shehady noted that the Construction Official's Annual Report had an explanation of fees collected relative to the number of permits issued.

Engineering

Mr. Shehady reported on a proposed application for a Local Recreation Improvement Grant for a playground at Colony Pool. Designs for potential apparatus were discussed. Mr. Shehady said that the vendor for the equipment has a State Contract, which means that bidding will not need to be done. Committeeman Choi asked if the LRIG grants can be used for Esternay Field improvements.

Deputy Mayor McHugh asked about the Safe Routes to School project on Lafayette Ave. Mr. Shehady said that the Township is still waiting on submissions from the contractor.

Committeeman Choi asked about field work for the Fenske Property. Mr. Shehady said that some delineation work has been done, and information needs to be sent to the State for review.

Finance

Mr. Shehady reported on the budget schedule for 2026. He noted a Local Finance Notice that addresses the statutory deadlines, and the budget should be introduced by the end of March with adoption by the end of April.

Public Works

Mr. Shehady said that an offer has been made to a candidate for a position in Public Works. If the individual accepts the offer, a resolution will be on the next agenda.

Committeeman Alperowitz recognized Public Works for their recent efforts to clear roads during snowstorms. Mr. Shehady gave statistics on the amount of salt that is required when roads need treatment.

Tax Assessor

Committeewoman Ewald asked about field work for the upcoming revaluation. Mr. Shehady said that it is hoped to have field work at the condos begin in January 2026. He also said that residents will be notified.

Hearing of Citizens

Deputy Mayor McHugh opened the Hearing of Citizens.
Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor McHugh closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Executive Session

**RESOLUTION 2026-P-02
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WITH THE
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WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Attorney-Client Privilege
 - b. Contract Negotiations
3. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matter of the Executive Session will be made public upon conclusion of the matter under discussion; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 4-13.
4. The Committee will come back into Regular Session and may take further action.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Committeewoman Ewald moved to adopt Resolution 2026-P-02 to enter Executive Session at 8:05 PM. Committeeman Choi seconded the motion.

It was announced that no formal action will be taken following this Executive Session.

Roll call: Committeeman Alperowitz, Aye; Committeeman Choi, Aye; Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Deputy Mayor McHugh, Aye; Mayor Rowland, Absent.

The Township Committee returned to Public Session at 9:22 PM.

Committeewoman Ewald moved to adjourn at 9:22 PM. Committeeman Alperowitz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Municipal Clerk