

**MINUTES OF THE
RECREATION COMMISSION
HOPATCONG BOROUGH HALL, 111 RIVER STYX ROAD, HOPATCONG, NJ
MAY 13, 2025
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7PM**

CALL TO ORDER: The Recreation Commission Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: This meeting is held in accordance with the 1975 Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to the New Jersey Herald/New Jersey Sunday Herald and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Recreation Commission Chairperson invites all present to salute the flag.

ROLL CALL: The Recording Secretary will call the role.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Darrin DiNapoli, Cheryl Ostman, Wendy Sutton, Ulla Vinkman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Superintendent of Recreation Max Vasile, Councilwoman Jennifer Johnson, Recording Secretary Nancy McCormack

OPEN SPACE UPDATE: Liaison Dave Barella—No update

OUTER SPATIAL UPDATE: Liaison Dave Barella— No updates

CELEBRATIONS OF EVENTS UPDATE: Liaison Wendy Sutton—No updates

OLD BUSINESS:

Street Hockey

Have 109 kids and are halfway through the season. There will be make up games due to rainouts. Last game for A-division starts 6/14; B-division starts beginning of June and ends 6/14.

MOTION TO APPROVE \$850.00 FOR TROPHIES:

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion, Commissioner Ostman seconded the motion.
All in favor.

Track and Field

Had a good season even though the team missed their coach. Many are looking forward to Cross Country. Registration opens the beginning of July for cross country at \$75 for runner. Lakeland League will require \$1,175 to belong to the league. Hoping that Jefferson and Sparta will want to join our league. June 1st is the end of season and the 8th graders will receive trophies and all other participants will receive medals.

MOTION TO APPROVE ANNUAL FEE FOR “TEAMSAP” \$149.99

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion, Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE \$50 INSURANCE (SKYLANDS) FOR TRACK

Commissioner Vinkman made a motion, Commissioner DiNapoli seconded the motion. All in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR BACKGROUND CHECK FOR 2 PEOPLE FOR \$44

Commissioner Ostman made a motion, Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All in favor.

**MOTION TO APPROVE COACHES SHIRTS AND T-SHIRTS IN ADDITION TO UNIFORM:
COACHES=\$260; T-SHIRTS=283.65, APPROVAL FOR \$550**

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion, Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE TROPHIES AND MEDALS FOR TRACK NOT TO EXCEED \$400.

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion, Commissioner Ostman seconded the motion. All in favor

NEW BUSINESS:

Field Request – Officer Dominic Salimando (PBA)

Dominic Salimando is here to discuss the issues with the Food Truck Fest and the problems with the field divits, garbage and port-o-johns. The festival will take place September 20, 2025.

Chairperson Sutton stated that if the fields get destroyed the town has no money to fix them.

Officer Salimando tried to price plywood, but it was expensive. He proposed that the trucks would not be on the field, but on the border around the field. Officer Salimando spoke with the vendor, and they have no problem with the trucks staying on the perimeter and the port-o-johns would be by the entrance and will have a representative come before and after the event to do a walk-through. They do not want to do it on the black top because it takes away from parking. Chairperson Sutton asked if it was possible for them to enter through the "emergency vehicle only" access. He will look into the access. Commissioner Vinkman asked about insurance, they have their own insurance. All pop-ups are associated with the truck vendor (Just Jersey). Chairperson Sutton also asked about a rain date, Officer Salimando said they would try for a date in October. Commissioner Ostman inquired about the State Park and unfortunately, they will not allow it. The stipulations to having it at Vet's Field are: a raindate; access for food trucks and car show parking. Councilwoman Johnson stated that Just Jersey should be responsible for field damages. Superintendent Vasile asked for the COI for the PBA and Just Jersey.

VOTE TO APPROVE FIELD REQUEST WITH FACILITY REQUEST FORM, RAINDATE IN OCTOBER, CAR SHOW PARKING, ACCESS TO FIELD, WALK TROUGH BEFORE AND AFTER.

All in favor.

Field Request – National Night Out

August 5th, 2025 with no raindate, 6:00pm-10:00pm. Located at Vet's Field. Taylor Gentry made a map. Officer Salimando said there would be a dunk tank, the fire trucks and ambulance would be there, police Mustang or Durango. He also said they would keep vehicles off the field. Officers will be there from 3:00pm-9:00pm.

VOTE TO APPROVE FIELD REQUEST FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 5, 2025 WITH WALKTROUGH BEFORE AND AFTER FOR DAMAGES.

All in favor.

UPDATE FROM SUPERINTENDENT VASILE

Current Events

- Block Party, May 17, 2025, from 10:00am-4:00pm
- Memorial Day Parade, May 24, 2025, 10:00am – 12:00pm from Borough Hall to Vets Field.
- Flag Day, June 14, 2025, 3:00pm-9:00pm, High School to Firehouse #3.
- Senior Olympics – fully booked, June 19, 2025, 9:00am-2:30pm
- Senior Picnic, 12:00pm-3:00pm, Senior Pavillion, food either BBQ or the Grotto
- Miss Hopatcong, June 26 (rehearsal)-27 (pageant), 6:00pm-8:00pm, at the High School
- Veteran's Cruise, June 28, 2025. Vets are selected by lottery on June 4, 2025. Can register online at the municipal building or online.
- Hopatcong Days, July 12, 2025, 12:00pm-3:00pm, face painting, pony rides, ballons, "FunTime" blow-ups.
- Sussex Minor, August 16, 7:00pm \$14, fireworks.

Potential Events

- Concerts in the Park
- Movies in the Park4
- Senior Move and Groove
- Center of Prevention and County Cooperative Programs
- Cross Country in the Fall
- Summer Basketbal
- Art classes – Cindy Treibar – 4 weeks each, paint, sculpting, at Senior Center
- Line Dancing
- Bingo Night, Fall possibly, ordering new Bingo equipment

- The Recreation webpage is updated
- Outerspatial is on the Trails Page
- Request for park, June 19, 2025 for Hopatcong Class of 2037, Kindergarten Graduation

OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:

Commissioner Ostman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Barry Comeford spoke about Street Hockey. They have 12-15 seniors this year, from Hopatcong, Roxbury, Lenape Valley, Sparta, Sussex Tech and Caldwell. The Sussex Tech game last night was fantastic experience even though they lost to Lenape 6-5! 400 fans showed up and both schools did Senior Night. Five boys playing won State Ice Hockey Scholarships and 1 was drafted into the US Hockey League. On another note, he suggested a walkthrough of the rink. The backing for the bench area, the screen fabric that separates the teams from parents and friends and is working well. He unfortunately found bottles in the rink. Councilwoman Johnson said she spoke to BA Snow and requested for police patrols, camera on skate park and rink and signs letting the public know they are there. Commissioner Ostman asked about the damage to the skate park and if we received a grant. Superintendent Vasile said it was budgeted to mill and pave and it was not. Councilwoman Johnson stated the insurance company gave the okay to open and deemed it safe. It's still locked until BA Snow can get to it.

Councilwoman Johnson brought up that at the council meeting Frank Cappello was asking about who lines the fields, BA Snow is looking into it and how it's done. But without a department superintendent, it may be difficult. Superintendent Vasile stated that the best solution is when there is a new DPW

Superintendent that they allocate a few guys to fields, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, for example. He suggests that the lining be left with the organization but have DPW maintain. He will speak with BA Snow about putting everything on schedule. Superintendent Vasile will also speak with BA Snow about having a real Parks and Recreation Department and could report to him and they would have a specific maintenance schedule.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All were in favor

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 13TH MEETING:

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ostman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Next meeting: June 10th at 7:00pm in lower level of senior center.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ostman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Submitted by
Nancy McCormack Boehm
Recording Secretary