

Borough of Palisades Park
275 Broad Avenue
County of Bergen
State of New Jersey

Regular Session
of the Mayor & Council
July 28, 2025

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
July 28, 2025

MAYOR CHONG PAUL KIM CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00PM.

STATEMENT:

This was a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council, and notice was given as follows:

1. Notice was filed January 9, 2025 with The Record & Newark Star Ledger, both official newspapers of the Borough.
2. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board at the Borough Hall and the Borough website at <https://palisadesparknj.org/>
3. Copy was preserved in the Clerk's Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE BROUGHT BY COUNCILMAN SHIN.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Kim	Present
Councilman Kim	Present
Councilwoman Lee	Present
Councilman Min	Present
Councilman Shin	Present
Councilman Vietri	Present
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Present
Borough Attorney Roberta Stern	Present
Borough Administrator Scott Krumholz	Present

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Work Session of the Mayor and Council:	June 16, 2025
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council:	June 23, 2025
Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council:	June 30, 2025
Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council:	June 30, 2025

Mayor Kim asked if the council members had any concerns about the minutes. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had a comment which was probably a typo on page 15. Mayor Kim asked which one and which date. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it was the regular meeting on page 15 in the middle under resolution 2025-191. It said 22 dollars received per hour but the month prior it was supposed to show 23 dollars rather than 20 dollars. Mayor Kim thanked Councilwoman Won-Yoon for correcting that. Clerk Sophia Jang stated that she will double-check the record and rectify this. Mayor Kim said that he agreed and asked if there was any more. Councilman Vietri stated that the last meeting last month. Mayor Kim asked if he was talking about the work session or the regular session. Councilman Vietri stated it was the regular session, and it was regarding resolutions 251, 252, 253, 254. Mayor Kim asked for clarification. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated he was talking about the agenda. Mayor Kim stated they were not there yet. Councilman Vietri stated that last month Mayor Kim made a remark that anything after the work session will not be added. Mayor Kim stated that it was only for the staff. Mayor Kim stated they will clear this up once and for all and thought everybody got it. They want to make sure that the governing body gets the information right on time. That was why they started this project. This was not relevant to the governing body and there will be situations, and they could ask the expert, maybe 10 years of experience, the borough administrator and the attorney and Councilman Kim and even the mayor himself could testify that they try not to get surprised resolutions. Mayor Kim included that while they try, they sometimes do come out. Mayor Kim stated that he sent out an email about two resolutions that come out today. It was sent a bit late because they were doing the review around 2:00 PM that day. Mayor Kim stated he also sent an email about what they added because they had to. Mayor Kim asked if they had read the emails. Councilman Vietri stated he did read the emails but also mentioned what the mayor said that they aren't going to add it. Now they added for resolutions. Mayor Kim stated he will repeat again. Mayor Kim stated that Councilman Vietri totally neglected and that he does not know if he was speaking English or Korean because he told Councilman Vietri that this rule only applies to the staff and not with the governing body. If there was an emergency issue from the committee members, and they wanted to come to them and say that they must put something in as an emergency happened at the pool, they could do that. This was only for the staff so they could get the information. Mayor Kim asked if that was okay. Councilman Vietri said no and that he disagreed with how the mayor was handling things. Saying one thing and doing another. Mayor Kim stated that whatever the case may be, that Councilman Vietri was out of order because they were not even on consent. Councilman Vietri stated that he was not out of order. Mayor Kim stated that he was as they were on the adoption of minutes, but Councilman Vietri was bringing something else out and Mayor Kim asked him why he was doing that. Mayor Kim stated that they asked him to hold his comments until the consent agenda and Councilman Vietri was still

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doing it and blocking the flow. Mayor Kim continued to say that Councilman Vietri was blocking the meeting. Councilman Vietri stated that he isn't blocking the meeting. Mayor Kim said that Councilman Vietri will get his chance during consent agenda and said thank you and that they will move forward. Sophia Jang stated that they need a vote for the adoption of minutes. Mayor Kim told the council members if they reviewed it and didn't have enough time and there were some errors they noticed later, they could always amend the minutes as they were not set in stone. Mayor Kim asked for a motion for the adoption of minutes. Councilman Shin started the motion and Councilman Kim seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as follows:

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

Mayor Kim stated that before they go on to the second meeting, that he would like to do two things in front of the council members. They decided that right now they would like to ask Roy, the Chief Financial Officer, to come up before the consent agenda and explain resolution 254 which was a corrective plan. This was also done in the work session but there were two council members that could not be there. Mayor Kim added that he would like to propose to the council to make resolution 235 which was the hiring of police officer, Omar Hernandez, into the off-consent agenda. The family was here. Mayor Kim asked for a motion to move consent agenda 235 into the off-consent agenda. Councilman Kim started the motion. Councilwoman Lee seconded. Mayor Kim stated that it will be off consent 235 considering the potential hiring of the officer Omar Hernandez. Mayor Kim then moved forward the meeting. Sophia Jang reminded the mayor that he asked Roy to come up. Mayor Kim stated that Roy wanted to do this now and asked if they would mind letting him explain about the resolution and corrective action. Mayor Kim then asked if they had any questions. Councilman Min asked if they had a resolution tonight. Mayor Kim stated that it was at the work session and Councilman Min and Councilwoman Won-Yoon were not there. Therefore, it would be a good opportunity to ask about the corrective action plan. Scott stated that it was just added. Councilman Min asked if that was today. Mayor Kim said that it was because of the fact that when they did the work session, they did not put this as a resolution. However, it had to be put into a resolution because this had to be reported to the state. That was why we're putting it into a resolution. This was impromptu and also, I the email as well. Mayor Kim stated that as soon as he found out, he sent it to the council. Councilman Min said that he thought they were only talking about it tonight. Mayor Kim said that they could talk about it and that was why Roy was here. Because the other council members were there during the work session, but Councilwoman Won-Yoon and Councilman Min were not. Mayor Kim asked the two to ask questions to Roy regarding the corrective actions. Mayor Kim included that any council members should ask too. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if there was any supporting material other than the one page they had. Mayor Kim stated that there was a deck. Sophia Jang stated that she sent it over email to all the Mayor and Council on July 22nd. Sophia Jang stated that she may have extras. Mayor Kim added that they need one for Councilman Min as well. Councilman Min had it. Mayor Kim asked if anyone needed extras. Mayor Kim stated that he recalls one of the creative actions plans they have to settle with the Borough Auditor. Mayor Kim then asked which number that was. Roy stated that it was number eight and nine. Roy then said that it was going to be reviewed by the borough attorney and Mayor Kim. Mayor Kim said that there seemed to have been some discrepancies. Roy stated that it was the opinion of himself and the borough attorney Scott, that in March, the mayor made a side bar agreement with the DPW and Roy was ordered by the council to make those payments. Roy stated they viewed it with the auditor and asked if he was correct in saying these were supposed to be eliminated from the corrective action. Scott stated that it was correct. When they brought it up with the auditor, they were unaware that there was a resolution that was passed by the council approving the two side bar agreements, which of themselves, named the employees subject to the payment and then subsequently those items appeared in the corrective actions. Mayor Kim stated those were the things that were still in the air that they wanted to make sure they were on point. Mayor Kim told Roy they have 15 corrective actions and asked if he could do another summary to refresh everyone's memory on which of these will be corrected by this year. Roy said that number one would be corrected and that he was working with the borough attorney on this along with the council. Number two was being done through the borough administrator and they were spending those funds down. Quotes in excess of 15 percent and that was the department heads. They always tell them, and they will do that again with the administrator. Number four, no former purchase was created and those have been fixed. Number five was something that Roy had to work on with those departments on December 31st so he can't guarantee it. Number six was done and it was corrected through Councilman Min and the Police Department. Number seven there was nothing Roy could do as it was the departments as they told the departments not to buy anything unless they got a purchase order. Number 9 he spoke about. Number 10 expenses incurred excess liability, which was the insurance, had been corrected. Number 11 was a 2023 audit comment that had now been corrected and raised in the budget. Audit of cash disbursed revealed numerous

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items do not have supporting documentation available for inspection. That had to do with purchase, any attachments and that was not being done as well. Roy added that W-9s have been corrected as well. Roberta Stern confirmed that statement. Differed compensation plans received for monthly statements have not been corrected as they were in the process of trying to get those statements. Mayor Kim asked to make sure it was out of a total of 15. Mayor Kim stated that Roy would have corrected 9 of those by next year. Roy stated they should be off by next year. However, if they were not, it was no reflection on finance or the administrator as it was the department heads that, for whatever reason, had some type of violation in buying something for a PO. Mayor Kim asked Roy how many towns Roy serves as a CFO for. Roy stated it was there. Mayor Kim asked what their averages are. Roy stated that their averages were between 5 and 6. These towns' averages were a little bit higher. But that was all because they had a lot of part timers who were doing purchasing. But again, very important, there were no material findings with the audit and that's the biggest thing for him as the CFO and as the administration. There were no double payments. Everything in the books was in order. These were the violations and a lot of it had to do with the procedure with the department heads. Mayor Kim asked what the auditor said about this. Roy stated that the audit was not a bad audit whatsoever. There were some violations that had to be corrected and the first three were being corrected. Mayor Kim asked the council members if they had any questions. Councilman Min stated that he I was going to bring this up question anyway, but, you know, there's a couple of findings there were it was actually repetitive from the prior years. So now it looks like it's actually in the plan where it's going to get corrected. For example, number six, that deals with the police department regularly itself. Councilman Min could 100% say they have actually corrected. Roy stated that he gave him the credit when he started. Councilman Min said so this was based upon the last year's last year's audit. Councilman Min stated 25 and that he was pretty sure everybody's going to see the difference as long as they move forward this way. There were a lot of stuff that was repeating from the past year and the year before. But they have actually changed the auditor this year. So hopefully anything that's been corrected, they won't see it in next year's audit which was the 2025-year audit. Councilman Min asked if he could get Roy's word for it. Roy stated that if it had something to do with the departments, he can't guarantee it. But if it had to do with the finance, they have corrected it already. Councilman Min stated he really doesn't want to see anything like line number 1 or line number 4. Those aren't the simple things. Mayor Kim stated that they agree with Councilman Min and that there was improvement compared with 2024. He does not mind that but wants to see continuous improvements. Mayor Kim added that some of the findings was part of management, part of finance. They got the wrong W9 and W2 forms. Roy stated that like number 7, if someone goes and buys something without a PO, nobody could see if but them. Roy added that it was going to happen. Mayor Kim stated they must raise their hands. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that she agreed but from the boroughs point of view, they got an invoice that all the departments have to follow the same process, so they don't see this point anymore. She then asked how they could do it. Roberta Stern said that they would need to remind them on a regular basis that they were not supposed to do certain things. They've been told on a number of occasions how to do this the appropriate way. They try to stay on top of them, and everyone in a while, something might slip through, but they correct it where they can. When they see things such as something being below the bid limit, Roberta still likes to get quotes for everything, and she reminded one of the department heads today where the other ones were, which resulted in her getting the other two quotes. By constantly reminding people, it shouldn't happen again. Councilwoman asked about number 8 and 9. The recommendation was that sick and vacation pay must be approved by the resolution, and they will see in advance. Scott stated that he was saying that the resolution that the governing body approved earlier last year was to approve the two side bar agreements. One was for white collar, and the other was for blue collar union. Each of those sidebar agreements had specifically named individual employees and the amount of money they were entitled to was reimbursement for sick and vacation pay. There was a resolution that was put forth to approve the white-collar agreement, and there was a resolution put forth to approve the blue-collar agreement. The council voted, from what Scott remembered, unanimously to approve the contract. Both were approved by resolution. The auditor, before he made this statement, had a telephone conference, and was unaware that the white- and blue-collar agreements were approved by this resolution of the council. When he was advised of that, he indicated that was no longer an issue but now they have been trying to get him on the phone to find out why he believes a separate resolution was still needed. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if that means next year, do they have to approve the resolution or was it a onetime done deal. Scott stated that it was his legal opinion that a further resolution was not needed. When they originally had a phone conference with the auditor, Scott stated his opinion and the auditor agreed with his opinion and said he was unaware there was a resolution approving the agreements. Scott does not know why this ended up on the statement. They have been trying to get a hold of the auditor to find out. Mayor Kim stated the auditor agreed. Councilman Kim asked which numbers were the ones with a department problem. Roberta stated that 7 was one of them. Roy stated that he would go with 3 and 7. Roy stated that they were on it but can't guarantee these comments won't be there next year. The rest of them, never guaranteed, but were very confident they won't be. Councilman Kim stated that compared to last year, this year they have 15 and 2 of them were department related that they could correct. Roy stated that this audit compared to last year was a better audit because there was much less financial. This was more of resolutions and record keeping that was not followed that should have been followed. Councilman Kim asked how many findings there were last year.

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Roy stated that it was probably the same number but there were different types of violations. Councilman Kim asked if Roy recalled any of them. Roy stated he remembered at least two or three of them and some were corrected. Roy added that the number one audit comment in New Jersey was purchasing. Scott asked if there were any other questions. Councilman Shin stated he had a question about number 3 where it said 50 percent of the bid and asked if that was realistic. At the August regular meeting, it was corrected by Councilwoman Won-Yoon that number 3 stated 15 percent rather than 50 percent. Roy stated that again had to do with. Councilman Shin interjected saying that it isn't a Chief Financial Officer matter but still wondered if this was a must or just a recommended thing. Roy stated that it was recommended but there were not that many violations. Roy stated that he believed it was three and the auditor put it in anyway. There weren't many violations. Mayor Kim asked if there were any benefits for having a perfect record. Roy stated there were no benefits. Mayor Kim then asked if these records right now were causing problems for the town. Roy said no. Mayor Kim said they have to make it in house and that it was their duty to get it done. Mayor Kim asked if there were any other questions. Mayor Kim then thanked Roy. Roy stated that it should be better next year. Mayor Kim asked to move to the second reading.

2nd READING/HEARING

ORDINANCE 2025-20 General Capital Bond Ordinance for Supply and installation Multi- Space Parking Pay Station

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass 2025-20.
Motioned by Councilwoman Lee and second by Councilman Shin.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

ORDINANCE 2025-21 Amending Ordinance Chapter 282, Vehicle and Traffic, Article V. Parking Meter, Section 31. Parking Fees

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass 2025-21.
Motioned by Councilman Kim and second by Councilwoman Lee.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

ORDINANCE 2025-22 Amending Chapter 84 of the Code of the Borough of Palisades Park Entitled "Alcoholic Beverages" to Modify the Permissible Hours for Sales, Delivery, and Service of Alcoholic Beverages within the Borough

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass 2025-22. Motioned by Councilwoman Lee and second by Councilman Shin

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

ORDINANCE 2025-23 Amending Ordinance 2025-15, Establishment of Salaries for Year 2025

Mayor Kim asked Scott if all the corrections were in place. Scott stated they were. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that when they looked at the Mayor and Council Salary, that it was not right. Mayor Kim asked what she

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meant. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that she was looking at ordinance 2025-23 and that the range was not right. The low side was definitely not right as she does not get that much money. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that this had not been updated. Mayor Kim agreed. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it was raised in May. Mayor Kim asked if they could delay this. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if this was not intentional. Mayor Kim stated that it was crazy because this had been changed. Councilman Min added that they were on the second meeting, and they were going to have to redo this. Mayor Kim stated that it was not their responsibility to find errors. Scott stated that he asked the accountant to send the changed version. Roberta stated that it came from Maria. Mayor Kim asked what the record stated from the first reading. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that it was the same. Mayor Kim said they had to change it and that they were in trouble. Mayor Kim apologized that this happened. He hoped the staff and professionals would read the ordinances appropriately. It hasn't changed since last month. Scott said that what they could do, because they have done this previously with the salary, was for the Mayor and Council, instead of a base and a nickel, they could say up to instead. Mayor Kim stated that the whole content would be changing. Mayor Kim said to correct him if he was wrong, but they were not just changing it as if it was a miniscule change. Scott said it would ministerially change, which was the legal term, but Scott believed that they did that for the salary ordinance. Roberta stated they made a change, but she does not know what the current salary is. Mayor Kim stated that at the first reading no one caught that but now at the second reading they were catching that. Mayor Kim asked what happened at the first reading. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she was not there. Mayor Kim asked if the first reading changed. If the first reading had changed according to what they decided to do, that means they could change it. This could just be a typo error. Sophia stated she was looking for the first reading. Mayor Kim said that if they don't find it, if the first ordinance was changed, then this came out, they could consider this as an error and they got the wrong copy or whatnot. But if it was the same, and they just found this out right now, that meant they would have to start the ordinance all over again. Councilman Vietri stated he had a question. He asked who put this together. Scott said that there were two things that needed to be changed. First there was the salary for certain pool employees. There was an issue raised about that. Then there was the salary for the municipal housing liaison, which needed to be modified from 1000 dollars up to whatever it was now. Those were the only two things that apparently have changed and Scott had asked the finance department to make those two changes to the salary ordinance and to forward them to everyone so they could approve the new ordinance. Roberta said that since this was arranged for the sake of argument, they also adopted the salaries as they were at a separate resolution. Roberta asked if that was not more important right now than the range because nobody was getting a change. They had a separate resolution that they adopted all the time that specifies the exact. So, for this year that that was adopted, that should hold. Scott said the problem was that if the base salary here was too high, they may be paid outside the range, then the resolutions were not within the ordinance and the ordinance trumps a resolution. Roberta said that it had been adopted already and that was what people were currently doing. Scott said that they should maybe ask the Chief Financial Officer. Scott asked if this was changed from the initial salary ordinance. Roy said that what they had in front of them had printed out, he did not prepare. However, the resolution was made by him, Roberta and Maria. All those salaries were all 3 percent excluding what the council gave in addition to the 3 percent. So, everyone was getting paid the proper amount of money. As far as this was concerned, that had to be fixed, but Roy was not prepared this evening to tell what the Mayor and Council were now and what the resolution is. Roy stated that he would like to do that at the next meeting because as they know, his staff were currently out for a period of time. Mayor Kim said he would like to see the first reading. Mayor Kim added that he recalled fixing it. Roy stated that he thought it was fixed as well. Sophia stated that it did not change from the last meeting. Mayor Kim apologized to the council members. They did discuss this in May, but this fell through the cracks. Whether this was an effect to the general payment for the employees, more importantly, was that they create an ordinance properly. Having said that, Mayor Kim asked to strike the ordinance, on record, then start a new ordinance next month. Mayor Kim asked Roberta to find out what happened. Roberta said she will. Mayor Kim said to go with the off-consent agenda 235, Omar Hernandez. Mayor Kim asked the council members if they had any questions. Mayor Kim then asked the directors to come up and talk about what happened. Mayor Kim said that the governing body decided to take out the consent agenda 235, hiring of Oma Hernandez as a new police officer at Palisades Park. But then, Mayor Kim asked the council members to bring this up to the off consent because there was a whole family waiting for it. Mayor Kim then asked the directors to explain how they were recommending this. The police director stated that they brought in Mr. Hernandez in for three separate interviews and they thought he presented himself well. Omar knows the job and has experience. It was a lateral appointment, and Omar comes from Patterson where he was busy every minute of every tour. When they asked Omar how he handled certain situations, he answered in a professional manner and his answers were right on point. They believe he's got a very good demeanor, and they think he will fit very well within the department. That was why he recommended it. Mayor Kim stated that Councilman Min was the chair there and although Councilman Min was not there, the media interviewed Councilman Shin, and the mayor was there as well. Mayor Kim then asked if they had any questions. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that she had a question. She asked what it means to certify the police officers. The police director answered that they have to take certain tests and licensing and so on and so forth and Omar was already certified and licensed as a police officer at the city of Patterson. Councilwoman Won-

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Yoon stated that the resolution didn't say any number for the salary, and it looked like per the salary ordinance which shows that there was some ordinance which would describe what the salary should be. The police director said that he didn't know the exact numbers but believed they were 55 or 54. The director added that Omar was coming in at step two, which was consistent with the lateral hires that they have made in the past. Based on his years of experience in Patterson, they thought it was best to bring him in at step two. Councilman Min continued to explain that police officers have a different structure of their pay rate, different from the borough. They called it step one, two and three. That was when they get raised, certain amount of money that gets raised every step. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked where it was possible to get the description of this step one, two, and three. The police director said that the steps were all part of the amendment or attachment to the collective bargaining agreement, and it shows the different steps of officers and shows the different raises that took place during the term of the agreement for the 40 officers. Mayor Kim asked to provide the steps for Councilwoman Won-Yoon. Councilman Vietri asked the amount of step two. The police director answered that it was 54,000 and changed but does not remember the exact number. Captain Beck stated that the salary for Omar was fair and consistent with the other laterals. Fernando St. Olair had five years of experience as a police officer, and he came in at step two. Adolfo Rodriguez came in at step two and he had three years' experience as a police officer and Hosam Morsi had three years as a police officer, and he came in at 54,000. Now, Mark Larea, who was hired during the first transfer they took, had a year's experience in Patterson, so he came in at 48,000. Therefore, to be fair and consistent, Omar Hernandez had four years' experience as a police officer in Patterson. They had five, four, three and three, and they all came in at step two, at 54,000. So, it was fair to everybody. Mayor Kim asked Councilman Shin if he wanted to say anything and asked to explain how he felt about the officer because he was there. Councilman Shin stated that Omar had a one-year-old daughter, and he had a stable position in Patterson. But later they chose Palisades Park which was quite worthy and valuable for Palisades Park. As the interviewer, Councilman Shin thought keeping this kind of good police officer in Palisades Park was kind of honor for us. Councilman Min told Omar that he wasn't there at the third panel interview. They conducted a third interview. Councilman Min was at the first and second interview. He stated that Omar was a great and bright young man, and a family guy. However, Councilman Min was not there at the third interview, but they did have a meeting as soon as he came back and received all the reports. Councilman Min stated that they need a certified officer like Omar. Certified means that they could put the boots on right away so Omar could be on the roll right away. Mayor Kim said that the recommendation from the committee chair of the Police Department provided his stamp of approval. Mayor Kim asked if the council members had any other questions about this candidate. Mayor Kim asked for a motion regarding off consent agenda, resolution 2025-235 Hiring Omar Hernandez as a police officer. First from Councilman Shin and second from Councilman Min.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

Mayor Kim asked Councilman Shin if he would like to give a bio now that Omar had officially been hired. Councilman Shin said the police officer Omar Hernandez, 32 years old, graduated from the Bergen County Police Academy class number 127 in 2021. He served as a Patterson police officer for four years. During his tenure as a Paterson police officer, he was known as a kindhearted officer who made many arrests and held for the community. Officer Hernandez was inducted for his heroism when he responded to a domestic dispute, chased the suspect and caught the suspect with a loaded handgun. Officer Hernandez was fluent in Spanish and was a proud father of a 1-year-old daughter. Police officer Hernandez's background was thoroughly assessed. He successfully passed the required medical and psychological evaluations. Police officer Hernandez had consistently demonstrated professionalism, courtesy, and integrity throughout his personal and professional interactions. Police officer Hernandez will be a worthy addition and asset to the future of the Palisades Park Police. Mayor Kim congratulated Omar. Mayor Kim added that Omar was a coincidental cousin of the town firefighter, Robins Rivero. Mayor Kim asked Omar's girlfriend to hold the bible for Omar. Captain Beck told Omar to stand in front of him. Mayor Kim told Omar to repeat after him. I Omar Hernandez Do solemnly swear I'll support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey. And I'll bear true faith and allegiance to the state and to the governments established in the United States and in this state under the authority of the people that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of officer Hernandez Ortiz. Mayor Kim congratulated Officer Hernandez. Mayor Kim asked if the council members would like to join for the picture. Officer Hernandez, his family and the council took a picture to commemorate. Mayor Kim told the council members that they will continue with the consent agenda. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had a comment on Resolution 2025-226. Roberta Stern stated she could not hear Councilwoman Won-Yoon and asked which resolution. Sophia stated it was resolution 226. Mayor

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Kim asked if there was a second. Councilman Vietri seconded. Mayor Kim said that this will now be off consent resolution 225 and 226. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that it was not 225 but just 226. Councilman Min asked if he could pull 246 and 252 for off consent. Councilman Min then stated that he will just pull 246. Mayor Kim told Councilman Min that he should call for the motion. Councilman Min asked for a motion to pull resolution 246. Mayor Kim stated there was a second and continued to the off consent and started with 226.

CONSENT AGENDA

- RESOLUTION 2025-225 Claims
- RESOLUTION 2025-226 Hiring of 2025 Summer Camp Program Seasonal Staff for Recreation Department
- RESOLUTION 2025-227 Authorization of Refund for Tax Payment in the Amount of \$1,093.20 to Joung Huen Kim (Re: 300A 7th Street)
- RESOLUTION 2025-228 Awarding Contract for 12 Bellview Parking Lot Project (Re: Westcraft Builders Inc)
- RESOLUTION 2025-229 Awarding Contract for Lawn Avenue and Temple Terrace Improvements (Re: D & L Paving Contractors Inc)
- RESOLUTION 2025-230 Approving Second Amendment to Settlement Agreement with Fan Associates, LLC (Re:15 Grand Avenue)
- RESOLUTION 2025-231 Approving Second Amendment to Settlement Agreement with Leem's Corporation (Re: 21 Grand Avenue)
- RESOLUTION 2025-232 Authorization of Liquor License Renewals Year of 2025 through 2026.
- RESOLUTION 2025-233 Authorization of Liquor License Transfer (#0245-33-016-005, Dongwon Tuna NJ Inc)
- RESOLUTION 2025-234 Authorization of Liquor License Transfer (#0245-33-028-007, Yesan Inc)
- RESOLUTION 2025-235 Hiring of Police Officer (Re: O. Hernandez)
- RESOLUTION 2025-236 Hiring a Part Time Traffic Enforcement Officer (Re: A. Rodriguez)
- RESOLUTION 2025-237 Hiring a Part Time Traffic Enforcement Officer (Re: K. Fatehmanesh)
- RESOLUTION 2025-238 Hiring a Part Time Traffic Enforcement Officer (Re: J. Dorilas)
- RESOLUTION 2025-239 Authorizing the Police Department to Hire Part-Time Records Clerk (Re: S. Yoon)
- RESOLUTION 2025-240 Acceptance of Retirement (Re: Police Officer Michael DeBartolo)
- RESOLUTION 2025-241 Authorization to Auction Surplus Equipment (Re: Police Department)
- RESOLUTION 2025-242 Award Contract for Stop and Pedestrian Signs (Re: Traffic and Parking Control Co, LLC)
- RESOLUTION 2025-243 Authorizing MOU with Teamsters Local 97
- RESOLUTION 2025-244 Revised Authorizing New Jersey County of Bergen 2024 Community Development Block Grant for Lincoln Street Improvements
- RESOLUTION 2025-245 Authorization the Borough Clerk Advertise of Bids for Lincoln Steet
- RESOLUTION 2025-246 Awarding Contract for Swimming Pool Clean Up Service (Re: VCI LLC)
- RESOLUTION 2025-247 Swimming Pool Membership Refund
- RESOLUTION 2025-248 Authorizing Reimbursement for 2023 Social Security Contributions (Re: T. Juliano)
- RESOLUTION 2025-249 Declaring an Emergency and Authorizing Pool Repairs for the Intermediate Pool at the Municipal Pool Complex (Re: Nautilus Swimming Pool Supplies & Service, Inc.)
- RESOLUTION 2025-250 Appointing Rent Leveling Board Member (Re: T. Christolias)
- RESOLUTION 2025-251 Modifying the Appointment of Rent Leveling Board Member (Re: K. Rogers)
- RESOLUTION 2025-252 Amending Resolution 2025-30 and 2025-52, Appointing Affordable Housing Administrative Agent and Municipal Housing Liaison (Re: D. Isabella)
- RESOLUTION 2025-253 Replacing Member of Investigation Committee
- RESOLUTION 2025-254 Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan for the Year 2024 as Presented by Chief Finance Officer

RESOLUTION 2025-226 Hiring of 2025 Summer Camp Program Seasonal Staff for Recreation Department

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if she could raise her concern. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that she could see that three people who were proposed to receive a stipend, they just raised their salary. Mayor Kim stated that this was not their salary. Mayor Kim said he called and asked what it was for. They say they do this every single year. Mayor Kim then said he asked Sophia and confirmed it was not actually a part of their salary. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that if they add this, it was close to a 20 percent increase. Mayor Kim stated this happened last year as well. This was extra work, not part of their salary. Mayor Kim said that if she does not want to go next year that was fine, but this was something above their salary, it was special work. Roberta stated that this was just their hour rate. This was the recreation for the summer program. Mayor Kim said it was not for the pool but for recreation. The summer program that they were doing at the pool. Roberta said that Councilwoman Won-Yoon was questioning three specific people. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that it was true and that those three were already receiving a salary. Mayor Kim said he was confused right now. He asked if the councilwoman was talking about the recreational department and why they were getting

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paid for that. Mayor Kim said he called and verified that with Sophia every year for extra pay. Sophia clarified that he talked with David Terranova. Roberta added that this was strict because they run the program for the summer. Mayor Kim said that this was not the normal thing. Mayor Kim said he did not know if they raised the recreation pay. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that they raised it 3 percent. Mayor Kim repeated that through the board, they raised it 3 percent but this. Roberta stated that it was just for the summer program. It had nothing to do with their salary and the 3 percent because they run the program in the summer and that was it. They were being paid to run the program for the summer camp. Mayor Kim said that he asked David Terranova if this was the first time and David said it was not. Roberta said what they were going to do from now on was that they were not going to have people put on for the pool after they started working. Next year, anyone who wants to work will be put on in April and not in July when they start at the end of May. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that these people were employees that have been working for a long, long time. Roberta stated that she does not know how long they have been working, but they were the ones who run the program. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that she understands. Mayor Kim told Councilwoman Won-Yoon they could talk about it afterwards. Councilman Min said that the resolution says the following individuals have been identified and interviewed by the recreational department director. So there was an interview process in regard to this resolution. Councilman Min then asked if this interview was for everyone else outside of the department or just inside. Mayor Kim said that he believed it was the interview for every single one of them, including recreational department members who were involved. Councilman Min clarified that he was asking who were actually involved in the recreational department. So was this outposted to actually look for anybody who could run the camp, outside of the department. Mayor Kim stated that he did not understand. Roberta said that she understood, and she does not know how it was done but she will find out. However, she presumed that the same people were the ones who run this year after year because they were known and that was why they continue to get hired to this position. Whether or not they should advertise outside, they could discuss that, but this was very common. Roberta said that she knows previously in other places that have been the same people that ran the camp season after season and in some cases the only reason there was a change was because one of them leaves or retires and does not want to do it anymore. Roberta added that she will definitely speak with David about his process. Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions. Mayor Kim then asked if he could have a motion to pass off consent 246. Sophia corrected him saying it was 226. Mayor Kim asked if nobody wanted to make a motion. Mayor Kim added that this happened last year as well and that this was a common thing now. If they want to change a common thing, they could do it next time. Mayor Kim asked again if he could have a motion. Next year, if the council would like to talk about it, they could talk about it with recreation. Right now, it was ongoing, and this was addressed during the work session. Mayor Kim asked for a motion. Councilman Shin started the motion. Councilwoman Lee seconded.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Abstain
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Abstain

Borough Clerk Sophia stated that this off consent agenda was passed. Mayor Kim thanked Sophia. Mayor Kim stated there was one more off-consent that was brought by Councilman Min which was resolution 2025-246.

RESOLUTION 2025-230 Approving Second Amendment to Settlement Agreement with Fan Associates, LLC (Re:15 Grand Avenue)

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if it was just to change the time and date. Scott stated that in the settlement agreements with the two developers, they had originally come up with a schedule to do certain benchmarks and to the town, the meeting in July for negotiating a redevelopers agreement was too aggressive so they agreed to push the deadline back to August. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if there was any chance of it being pushed again. Scott claimed that there was not and that it was only changed from July to August. Mayor Kim stated that while they were looking at the consent agenda, he would like to discuss resolution 2025-248.

RESOLUTION 2025-246 Awarding Contract for Swimming Pool Clean Up Service (Re: VCI LLC)

Councilman Min said that from the past work session, Councilman Min joined by Zoom and he noticed that the work had already been started, and they were awarding a contract for the service. Councilman Min then asked if he could get an explanation. Borough Administrator Roberta stated that unfortunately, this year, they had some issues getting the pool ready and getting things done. Obviously, it had to be done, because the pool had to open, so it had to be cleaned. Unfortunately, some of the quotes, they couldn't find them, and she had to get the work done. Roberta confirmed that the work was done first, then the packet was put together with the quotes for

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the cleanup. Mayor Kim said that it was because they ran out of time. Roberta stated that a number of things happened. Mayor Kim claimed that the pool had to be opened on a certain date. Roberta repeated that a lot of things happened, and they couldn't get people to commit to whether they were going to do it. They couldn't do it. One guy gave a price but then said he couldn't afford the paint. Then they decided they weren't going to paint the pool this year because they ran out of time. So, it was really a confluence of a number of issues which happened with a number of things, which will not happen going forward with the pool. But they had obligations, and it was one of the same things that happened at the beginning of the season. Mayor Kim said that this was part of their audit. Roy explained that audit and that this was a part of the audit they do not want to get in trouble for. Mayor Kim said that for himself, he understood the severity of the situation that they were going through. They were running out of time, but they have to get it done. Mayor Kim stated, however, that he does not like paying bills without the authority of the governing body unless it's emergency appropriation. Mayor Kim accepted Roberta's comment that this would not happen again and that he could live with it being a special case. However, the mayor and the council members would rather not be in that kind of pickle. Roberta said that she did not want to be in that position herself. Councilman Min said that it was a problem. He checked the record and there was no resolution actually awarding a contract for the same people. Mayor Kim stated that Councilman Min was talking about the same thing right now. Councilman Min stated that he knew he was talking about the same thing, but his concern is. Mayor Kim stated he needed to use the restroom. Councilman Min continued to say that his concern was that the quote came in May 22nd, 23rd, and 25th. The swimming pool's official opening date was May 31 and that had always been. Councilman Min included that they were working with the same employee from the swimming pool last year, the year before, 2022, 2023. They have been working with the same people for many years. These were repeating things that they always get done. Last year there was no problem, because they know, for fact, who to go for. Roberta stated that the one problem was, who didn't quote on this was because he said he wasn't doing that work this year. That was another reason why things didn't get done in the matter they should have, because there was a misunderstanding between the pool manager and that particular vendor. Roberta was dancing around finding other people to do things because he said he couldn't do it. Then subsequently, he said he could have. Roberta said that frankly it was not something she would have liked to deal with if she did not have to. Councilman Min asked if it was fair to say the swimming pool manager notified them on time, but it was just hard to find a person. Roberta confirmed Councilman Min's question because the pool director knows the pool had to be cleaned to open it. They wanted to get prices for doing the cement all the way around the pool. The prices were phenomenal, and they decided not to and to just fix the cracks. Then they had trouble finding somebody who was going to actually clean the pool. This person came in and did work that was not one of his regular things, but he got a crew of people to do this so they could open. Councilman Min stated that the company who actually quoted was a different service. They were just providing a cleanup service. Roberta said that if the regular guy hadn't told the pool manager that he wasn't doing it this year, there wouldn't have been an issue. But there was miscommunication between them. Roberta had to find other people to do things and that's why there was a lot going on down there. Mayor Kim reminded the council about the blown-up tank and the valves. Roberta said that it was all part of it. It was one thing after another that needed to get done there. Roberta said that it was not a perfect scenario, but it was what it is. The pool got done and he did a great job. He had men working all the time because there were a number of issues and he got the work done. Councilwoman Lee stated that starting next year, they need to be more proactive and start the process early. Whatever they did this year, it was not on time. Mayor Kim asked them not to go back and forth like that. Councilman Min was about to speak but Mayor Kim apologized and stated they needed to raise their hands. Councilman Shin said that he was the councilman in charge of the swimming pool. He had some responsibility for this but like Roberta and himself, nobody was involved with it. Mayor Kim stated that he was not responsible and that Councilman Min would be getting paid a salary if he were responsible. Councilman Shin continued to state that the only person involved was the swimming pool manager. The swimming pool had a lot of problems, but they were delayed, delayed and just postponed all the problems and all the problems came at once. Mayor Kim said that they were problems that existed before. Councilman Shin stated that they existed for 15 years, 10 years. But they didn't spend any money on that, and they didn't fix anything last year. They just managed the swimming pool, and they got the money for 15 years. But this year, they were new so they couldn't see that kind of problem, so they tried to fix all the problems. But of course, the problem itself was separate but there were all kinds of consequences. For example, the pump should have been fixed with the water and when the water came in, they found the water was not clean enough. So, somebody cancelled his membership because the water was not clean. Now they need to clean the water. Councilman Shin said that he knows this was not the normal procedures, but this could happen just once but next year, Councilman Shin will still be a councilman, and Roberta will still be the borough administrator so they will know all the stories so they will make some kind of manuals before opening the swimming pool. Mayor Kim stated that he was very smart. Create a manual, prep what to do every single year. Mayor Kim confirmed this was not proper procedure and told that to Councilwoman Won-Yoon and Councilman Min but stated that Roberta did explain it. Roberta said that she would try her best not to make this happen again. They acknowledged that she had to do it but it was not the proper procedure. Mayor Kim agreed with that and that it should not happen often. Councilman Shin stated that the only thing he heard from the former councilman in

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charge of the swimming pool, was that the swimming pool was the money maker, so they have to keep it. Councilman Min stated that they were spending taxpayers' money. It was almost 30,000 dollars. They just found out they have to pay for that. But there was no contract that's been awarded in the past. For Councilman Min, they need to be more careful on this. Mayor Kim agreed. Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions about off consent 246. Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass off consent agenda 2025 246. Councilwoman Lee started the motion. Councilman Kim seconded.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	No
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Abstain
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Abstain

Borough Attorney Scott stated that for a resolution, it did not pass and that they needed a majority vote of everybody. Mayor Kim requested Councilman Vietri and Councilwoman Won-Yoon, and Councilman Min to reconsider. They went through the motion of not making this happen. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had one comment. She stated that people could make mistakes, including herself. In order to correct that mistake, somebody had to be accountable. Without accountability, it was tough to change it. They have to fix the rest of it. According to what Councilwoman Won-Yoon was hearing, the borough administrator was new, and Councilman Shin said that he was new, it sounded like the swimming pool head was the one who needs to take the responsibility for this. Who informed them in advance and made sure that they actually complete the work. Councilwoman Won-Yoon said that she understood the situation, but someone does have to be accountable for this. Otherwise, she does not know how they could force them to not make the same mistake going forward. Roberta stated that these were unusual circumstances, but the difference was that this particular person had done this work and to make him suffer and come after the town for payment, when the work was done in good quality workmanship, he should get paid. All the things that happened were very unusual this year. That was no question. It had nothing to do with Councilman Shin being new or Roberta being new. It had to do with the issues that predated them and those two trying to get everything ready. In this particular case, this work was done, and they opened the pool. Roberta said that she thinks it's unreasonable or anyone to not pay this man. He did this work months ago, had been waiting for payment, and maybe they should have had it earlier. Councilman Kim echoed Roberta. A job done was a job done and they were obligated to pay for it. They cannot penalize the worker who did the job. Maybe they could penalize or warn our staff who miscalculated the timing and whatever the cause was that made a mistake. But they cannot penalize the person who worked for the town. That shouldn't be the right way the governing body should be seen. Councilman Vietri said that as long as the gentleman did the work for the town, there's no reason why he shouldn't get paid and that he will change his vote to yes. Mayor Kim stated that he appreciated it but added that it was okay without the change. Scott asked to confirm that there were three votes for, one vote against, and two abstains. Sophia stated that it was two abstentions and confirmed the rest of Scott's statement. Scott stated that for a resolution, it was the majority of the people that actually vote, and abstentions were not a vote. Therefore, the resolution carries. Roberta stated that they should still change the vote because Councilman Vietri wants to. Mayor Kim asked Councilman Vietri if he would still like to change it. Councilman Vietri said yes. Sophia asked if she could verify the motion made by Lee and second by Kim, yes by Kim, Lee, no by Min, yes by Shin and Vietri, and abstain by Won-Yoon. Sophia then stated that the resolution carries. Mayor Kim told Roberta that they were going to have to hold her responsible. Next year, if the governing body decides to rehire her, that was the number one thing that she had to do. Roberta stated that she does not want to be funny about it, but she cannot reiterate how many problems there were and how much effort went into getting it ready. All things other than that, Roberta stated that it won't happen again. Roberta added that there were a lot of issues that she would not bring up because it should be in an executive session. Councilman Shin stated he had one more comment. He stated that it was not for the swimming pool but for the town as a whole. Everywhere, this kind of discrepancy exists. To make the Borough Administrators work well, they have to know that in advance not to hear that kind of thing again. Councilman Kim added that they have nobody else to penalize and that was why they have to penalize her. But it was serious, and it will really annoy a person if this happened again and again. Councilman Kim stated that he knew that it wasn't her fault, but they have to blame somebody. Roberta stated that all she could say was that the pool opened, people were enjoying it and next year it will be a totally different story. Mayor Kim thanked everyone and told the council members to run through the alternate route. If the borough administrator found out they have to do this promptly, she would have to request a special meeting. Then they would have to go to a special meeting and have a vote for this. Of course that was the proper procedure. Mayor Kim was not saying that this was the right thing to do. They should never pay somebody until they pass a resolution. But having said that, Roberta had to do what she had to do, and she apologized. But most importantly, they must talk to the whole committee. Mayor Kim told Councilman Shin to sit down with Karen and the BA and to set up a to do list. Councilman Shin stated that he will make some sort of menu or whatever. Mayor Kim stated that Councilman

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Shin could let them do it but just make sure it was correct. Councilman Shin said that it was not the only thing. He mentioned the policies in not just the swimming pool but for all the departments. Mayor Kim agreed that the management of the town was not good. They need time to fix things. It had been unfixed and broken for over 30 or 40 years. Mayor Kim told Sophia to continue with the consent agenda. Sophia stated they have three Off-consents in tonight's meeting. So they will vote for the consent agenda resolutions 2025-225 through resolution 225-254 with the exception of resolution 2025-226, resolution 2025-235, and resolution 2025-246. Scott stated that they were also removing resolutions 2025-252. Sophia repeated that it was consent agenda resolutions 2025-225 through resolution 225-254 with the exception of resolution 2025-226, resolution 2025-235, resolution 2025-246, and resolution 2025-252. Mayor Kim thanked Sophia. Mayor Kim asked if there were any concerns about the consent agenda. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked to clarify for resolution 2025-230 and 231.

RESOLUTION 2025-248 Authorizing Reimbursement for 2023 Social Security Contributions (Re: T. Juliano)

Mayor Kim said he had a discussion with the BA and also the two attorneys and the chief financial officer. Under the contract and the law, they were bound to pay the social security, and they were working on it. If they were bound to pay the social security, the police officers were outside risking their lives, that's why Mayor Kim said they should pay them first and they will get that later. This was the same thing that was going to happen to ten more police officers in the police department. They were going to allow them to get the reimbursement back first, then they will collect back because they want to protect the police men at work, risking their lives, as that was the least, they could do. Because of this resolution, it was almost like a case example. If this happens, the rest of the ten were going to get it too. It was going to preemptively tell them that they were going to give it to them as well. Roberta added that they will have a resolution in August. Mayor Kim stated that they will not give it to the officers until they have a resolution. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she may have misunderstood as the resolution stated they deducted social security by mistake. Roberta said that for two years, the money came back from social security but last year they still had not sent the money. Half of it was for the people and the other half was for the borough. This officer went forward and went to court to get this and as a result the mayor, the attorneys, the CFO and Roberta felt that it was appropriate that they pay the others and they will wait for the town's share of the money. On June 3rd they sent another letter to the social security administration department of treasury, requesting they follow up with last year. They still have not heard back but they have someone from the congressman's office working on it. Councilman Vietri stated that he had a question. Councilman Vietri asked if they were going to pay everybody in August. Mayor Kim replied that it was not everybody. Scott stated that there were ten other police officers. Roberta followed up saying it was 11 altogether and now that Juliano was getting paid, there were ten remaining. Scott stated that from his understanding, back in 2021, 2022, and 2023, there were 11 police officers who were having social security deducted from their paychecks. These 11 officers subsequently notified the borough that they did not wish to have social security deducted from their payroll. The borough then notified social security and for 2021 and 2022, social security reimbursed them. However, for 2023 they have not yet received the reimbursement, but they were going to proactively reimburse all 11. There will be a resolution for the council's approval in August for the reimbursements. Mayor Kim asked what the error was and whose fault it was. Scott stated that it was a combination of the police officers having to ask to not have reduced from their social security. Roberta said that in ADS, who do their payroll, there was a drop down. Inadvertently that was not filled out correctly for these officers and it was a program. When everyone realized what it was, they got the money back. Now they have been trying very hard to get this money back. Roberta added that it was their money too as it was the rest of the money for the borough and not just the officers. Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions about the consent agenda. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if that was fixed this year. Roberta said of course as it was years ago. Scott stated that 2023 was the last year it happened. Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions about the consent agenda. Mayor Kim asked if he could have a motion for consent agenda resolution 2025-225 to 254 excluding 226, 235, 246, and 252. Councilman Kim motioned, and Councilman Shin seconded.

Mayor Kim asked if he could have a motion for consent agenda resolution 2025-225 to 254 excluding 226, 235, 246, and 252. Councilman Kim motioned, and Councilman Lee seconded.

Councilman Kim	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes to 225, 227, 234, 236 to 245, 247 to 251 and will recuse from 253 and yes on 254.
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilman Vietri	Yes but abstain on 253
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes but abstain on 253

RESOLUTION 2025-253

Replacing Member of Investigation Committee

Mayor Kim asked why they were abstaining from resolution 2025-253. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that she does not know the reason. Mayor Kim asked which one. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it was 253 and that she was abstaining because she does not know why they were changing it. Mayor Kim stated that he explained it over email. Scott added that the resolution itself was self-explanatory. Mayor Kim explained again that the attorney for the investigation was approached by the other council saying that there's a conflict of interest for Councilman Min because there was conflict, it was safer to take Councilman Min out and replace somebody else in it and the mayor asked Councilman Shin to join. Councilman Min stated that when they formed an investigation committee, strictly about this resolution, the lawsuit was already there, and they got legal advice saying they could form a committee and that Councilman Min could be on the committee. Mayor Kim asked if the lawsuit was already there before Councilman Min was a part of the committee. Roberta stated that it was true. Councilman Min stated they were taking him out due to conflict. Mayor Kim stated that it was because of the opposing council saying they had a problem with Councilman Min. Scott stated this happened back in 2024. Councilman Min stated that it was already there. Mayor Kim stated they should take about this. Councilman Min said that it came to him at a very shorthanded time and there was no explanation saying there was a conflict. Mayor Kim repeated the fact that he sent them an email. Councilman Min stated that he knew the lawsuit was already there beforehand. Roberta stated that the conflict happened subsequently, but the issue of a conflict happened because of something. Councilman Min stated that detail wasn't in the email. Mayor Kim stated that it wasn't until the opposing attorney said they had a problem and their own attorney said fine and that they would replace Min with somebody else. They wanted to protect Councilman Min and protect that investigation and put somebody there. There was no intention of trying to misrepresent or undermine the councilman. Mayor Kim stated that Councilwoman Won-Yoon could stand to her vote. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated they did have two different lawyers. Mayor Kim stated that they have 3 lawyers about this right now. The first one stated it was a good idea. The reason why they were doing this was because they needed to create a community so they could create certain number of rights to investigate. After that, they were doing good until the second labor council said the opposing council felt like there's some sort of conflict and said that he was out. Then came the third and the opposing council said they have another conflict. Councilman Vietri stated that they keep paying 3 lawyers on this. Mayor Kim stated that it was not them paying the 3 lawyers. It didn't start because of that. It was because of the opposing attorney saying they had a problem. If there was even a slight amount of conflict, they would rather them come off the target and let somebody else handle it. Sophia asked if she could clarify resolution 2025-253. They had a motion by Kim and second made by Lee. They had Kim, Lee, and Shin say yes, abstain by Vietri and Won-Yoon. Mayor Kim asked if Councilman Min recused. Councilman Min stated that he did. Mayor Kim said that if he refused, then there were 5 votes, and they have 3 yes. Borough Clerk Sophia stated that resolution 2025-253 was carried out. Mayor Kim asked if everyone voted. Sophia replied that they did. Mayor Kim stated that he will sit down with the staff and figure it out as ordinance 2025-23 was an embarrassment.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Lee stated there was an update from the school boards. There were two key positions that were appointed. One was the interim superintendent, and the other was board secretary. Both of these positions went through a rigorous selection process. One thing for the interim superintendent position was that they required the candidates have at least 3 years of superintendent experience as qualification. For the board secretary, they wanted someone who had experience with data management and in particular project management. They were appointed and started working starting last Wednesday. Mayor Kim stated they wish the best of luck to the Board of Education.

Councilman Shin said that the DPW in June had 557 works the DPW did and out of the 557, 300 was pickup electronics, refrigerators, and things like that. As Councilman Shin said before, rather than pick up things every day, about 15 or 20 a day, he would like to appoint just 3 days in a week to pick up electronics and things of that sort. Mayor Kim stated that it would be great if they could finalize a deal and they don't have to make a decision here. This was the main management and authority of the BA. Mayor Kim added that it was a very good idea and that they should talk it out. Councilman Shin added that the recreation department had the movie night on July 15th, and another movie night was coming on July 30. The movie was "*Inside Out 2*". It was at Lindbergh School at 8:00 PM.

Councilman Min stated he had no report but the police department and the OIC will share the police report. Mayor Kim asked about the interview. Councilman Shin asked for clarification. Mayor Kim stated it was for the chief. Mayor Kim stated they wanted to do an internal interview. It was pertaining to the question of Mike Vietri

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that the police department director, Roberta and the mayor all decided that they were going to do the interview for the chief position in house. They were not going to bring any people outside. Councilman Min asked if they had everything ready. Mayor Kim said not yet but he was just letting Councilman Min know so nobody would get blindsided. That was why the resolution was not there anymore. Councilman Vietri stated they did a very good job on that.

Councilman Kim stated that they have not done their health fair for a long time. They had a wonderful health fair for many years, and the mayor tried to rebuild Councilman Kim as the chairperson for the health department, and they were working together for the health department. They have started some small size health fairs for either the end of October or beginning of November. They were working on it while they were looking for some volunteers. Councilman Kim said to let him know or let the health department know. Mayor Kim stated that the event used to be really nice. A lot of kids and families came, took their blood pressure, even did blood work. Covid shots, flu shots, and all kinds of stuff were available there. Education and free stuff for the kids. If any council members would like to join, the mayor said he would appreciate that.

Councilman Vietri said Councilman Min was the head of the police department committee, and it felt like Mayor Kim was putting all the words in Councilman Min's mouth. Mayor Kim said it was not true. Councilman Vietri stated that the mayor did not let Councilman Min talk. Councilman Min wasn't understanding yet Mayor Kim just kept talking. Mayor Kim asked Councilman Vietri when he became Councilman Min's representative. Mayor Kim added that Vietri was not at the meeting and why he was accusing the mayor. Councilman Vietri stated that Councilman Min should have brought it up, but it was brought up by the mayor. Mayor Kim said that he sure can't bring it up because people make mistakes and people could forget. Mayor Kim would be very happy if someone could remind him of something that he forgot that should have been mentioned to the rest of the council. Councilman Vietri said that last month they went through that the council should be told on what's going on when they've made decisions. Councilman Vietri then stated that Mayor Kim does not do that. Mayor Kim stated that they should have gotten the report already after the meeting. Councilman Vietri told Mayor Kim that the mayor had short memory. Mayor Kim stated that he does have short memory, as much as his patience with the councilman. Mayor Kim then asked what report Councilman Vietri had. Councilman Vietri stated he had no report. Mayor Kim stated that was what he thought.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that there was a new director at the library, and she started July 13, 2025, and throughout this year, she will be working as an interim director. She had a lot of experience, many years of experience supervising library operations and staff. Councilwoman Won-Yoon added that she reported about the MOU. The borough had a MOU with Dongducheon city last June and there were two follow ups that the councilwoman did. She had two meetings with Dongducheon and the business owners in the city in July. They also had a liaison who currently works at the education center. There was a potential project, but they would have to find the fund. She also discussed with Councilman Kim on how they were going to find those funds. Mayor Kim stated that was the main point. The reason they created an account through the CFO was that they could somehow get some donations to create a program to complement Dongducheon's program. Mayor Kim asked if that was all for the library. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that was all. Mayor Kim stated that there were some internal investigations that concluded. But he was told that the library board members do not know what had happened with the results. The attorney should give somebody general information about what the results were of the internal investigation. They don't have to know the details as it was sensitive material, but the mayor believes that the board member had a right to know the results of the applications unless there was a conflict between that board member. Mayor Kim asked Councilwoman Won-Yoon to ask the library attorney because it seems like nobody had the results when it was done in March.

Mayor Kim told everyone to stay cool as it was really hot outside and to drink a lot of water. Most importantly for the council members, Mayor Kim mentioned that he had been trying to send emails and had repeatedly verbally, here and off premises, to review the law of the ordinance that they were trying to create for the basement unit legal tenancy. Mayor Kim stated that he was working on it continuously and would like the council's input. Mayor Kim stated he would like to present the first ordinance in August. But in order to change all of this, it takes different parts such as the building, fire, the attorney, the special attorney, and back to the council to make sure everything was okay. Mayor Kim asked the council to put in their input promptly. Mayor Kim did not want the council to claim they did not know. Mayor Kim stated that here they have the opportunity to provide their input. They have the ordinance and Mayor Kim asked them to review the ordinance. Mayor Kim stated that the cooling center was still the borough hall and the library. Roberta stated that it was on the website as well and that it was from 9 to 6.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Scott Krumholz stated he had no report

BA REPORT

Roberta Stern stated she had no report

POLICE REPORT

The police director stated that there was little clarification on the chief's position. The director drafted a job bulletin for that position, and it was sent to the attorney's office for review. It noted a certain number of years' experience as a supervisor within Palisades Park. Based on that one sentence, the director doesn't know of anybody on the outside that would be qualified to even apply for that position. He added that there were a number of other things as well. Second thing would be that this afternoon, OIC Beck and the director went driving around town to check on parked cars, and to check on areas where known people that were hanging out there were drinking and so on and so forth. They stopped and made their presence known at swim club and would like to report on the town's conduct. They didn't see any issues that needed addressing. They came upon an accident where their officers were handling the report. They were doing everything in accordance to the policies and procedures, keeping themselves safe, as well as keeping the individuals involved in the accident safe. They were very happy with what they saw. Mayor Kim stated that like Councilman Min said, they were preparing for the roles and responsibilities qualifications and make sure that complies with their rules and regulations in the police department. The police director stated he reviewed the code before he drafted the bulletin that he provided to Scott and Alan. Scott stated that they had some comments that they should be getting back to the director tomorrow at the latest. Councilman Vietri said he knew the police department was going for the accreditation and asked if they got it. The director stated that they have not gotten it. Councilman Vietri stated that he was told they did, and it was on Facebook or some online media. The director stated Captain Rotundo was spearheading that. The director then said that they were well on their way to accreditation and based on his conversation with the captain, they have indicated to the captain where they were in the process, they were one of the fastest towns or police departments to get to this level of the process. The director commended Captain Rotundo for spearheading that but that was what was indicated. They hoped to be accredited before the end of the year, which was probably unheard of. OIC Beck stated that the accreditation was currently at 93 percent and that the final few percent were taking a little slower. OIC Beck explained that when they get to the final percentage, there were certain times that were allotted so things have to happen. If a certain kind of call happens within this time frame, they have to prove compliance in that. If that doesn't happen, then they can't get to the next percent until the time expires, which at that point they could say during that time period for the sampling, they did not have any of those incidents and therefore, could now proceed forward but they have to allow time for that. And there were some final things being done and one of them was the second drug testing of the officers which they were obviously not going to announce when, but it was twice a year and a certain time frame. Those were two examples of why they were at 93 percent and not 100. OIC Beck also confirmed the director's statement of how it was commented to Captain Rotundo that they were far exceeding his expectations of where they are. They were also exceeding many of the other departments who seek equal accreditation. Councilman Vietri stated that the only reason he said that was because somebody told him that he received a picture or motion saying they were accredited. Councilman Vietri just wanted to confirm. OIC Beck stated that he knows for a fact it was not posted on any of their social media platforms. OIC Beck added that their Junior Police Academy had 29 cadets this year and they all graduated. It was a very successful program. The kids were very happy, and it was the fourth successful year. OIC Beck stated that even the officers were starting to enjoy it a lot and it was growing. It was great for the community, great for the school and great for the officers. The national night out was August 5th and OIC Beck hoped that they would all be there to help. Whether it be for the dunk tank, the grill or if they wanted to stand at the tables and give out literature or if they want to help raffle out bicycles to the kids. OIC Beck welcomed everyone to help out. Councilman Min volunteered to help out with the grill. Mayor Kim volunteered to work at the dunk tank. Mayor Kim joked they would make a lot of money if they charged money. OIC Beck also joked that he wished they could charge money. OIC Beck stated that the Palisades Park Police Department does not charge anything to throw a ball, and they could throw as many as they would like. The entire night was free for everybody, so they encouraged everybody to come out. It was the first Tuesday of August, which was the fifth. Mayor Kim asked where it was going to be located. OIC Beck stated that it would be August 5th from around 5 to 8PM and that it would be out in front. Mayor Kim stated they were going to close Broad Avenue. Mayor Kim asked if there were any questions. OIC Beck stated that their facility update was nearly complete. Councilman Min did a walk through today and checked out where they were on progress since he came back from Korea. They did a great job in the basement. They have the window that was still unfinished. They talked to the contractor today but there's a little bit of a delay from the bullet proof window that was going there. It was not a stock item but was manufactured for those specs so OIC Beck was assured that it was shipped and will hopefully be arriving next week. They also have a beautiful acrylic patch that they were going to hang on the wall to clearly identify it as the Palisades

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Park Police Department. They then thanked the Mayor & Council for hiring Officer Hernandez as it helps them out in this time. With the retiring of one officer and some issues that he was not going to discuss here, it allows them to provide services for the town. OIC Beck also thanked the council for hiring a part-time records clerk as it was a very demanding position with parking permits and police reports. OIC Beck also mentioned the three TEOs who will address some of these ordinances, some on Broad Avenue which include the littering and quality of life issues that they were able to handle. They took the director for a tour today and they checked spots such as spots where drunkards would hang out. There was a guy on Quality-of-Life Detail tonight and they have been working on it actively. It was surprising because they were going to know the police were there. The residents of this town deserve not to have anybody drunk on their lawn. And as a community they all deserve to have a home like that. Everybody knows Palisades Park was a very expensive place to live, and they should have a quality, clean place to live. OIC Beck said that if anybody does have these issues where they see drunkards or quality of life issues, they could come and see him, and they will address it. OIC Beck added that the director was very proud of it. In the summertime, the police all volumes increase a lot, but the officers were out there answering a tremendous number of calls. There were a lot of things that were up and OIC Beck stated they will have the report for that soon. They have seen a shift in productivity, and they will have those numbers too within the next couple of months. Mayor Kim said he had something he mentioned to OIC Beck but not to everybody. There were a couple council members that came up to the mayor and said that during the negotiation with the union, which they were most likely going to renew the contract with. During that time, the recommendation and concern during that time was that they need to make sure the police officers were well taken care of, cared for, and that their opinion matters. Mayor Kim wanted to make sure that the officers have their voice concerning whether they're okay with the shift schedule that's happening right now. Mayor Kim believed some liked the shift and some didn't. Mayor Kim asked if they could do an assessment to see how they feel. Some officers can't see their kids and some officers were fine with it so they need to find the medium. Once they find the medium, those were the keys and components that they were going to negotiate with the union. OIC Beck stated that the contract committee was already sampling the officers. Mayor Kim stated that they just wanted to know what the findings are. One of the police officers stated that one thing was a reminder to people checking their parking permit and making sure it was not expired. If they go onto the borough website or on the police department website, there was a link. Mayor Kim asked to close and to move on to public participation. First by Councilman Min and second by Councilwoman Won-Yoon.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ernie Spearling walked up. Ernie was at the meetings many times when trailers were discussed. One of the questions was, could we terminate it earlier than they leased it for. Now barring any legal things, Ernie asked if they could not just terminate it now and let the legal process keep going as it was a lot of money they were spending every month. Scott stated that the contract was over and that they were coordinating the trailer being picked up. Scott believed they were disassembling it at the end of August. Scott added that it was already in progress and that there were discussions with Will Scott, the trailer company, regarding other issues they had. Meanwhile the investigation was still ongoing in terms of what happened during that period of time. Ernie stated that he thought it might be two separate issues. Mayor Kim stated they haven't paid the whole bill and they were making sure they only have to pay what they have to pay right now. Ernie stated that his second point was the pool. Ernie repeated that he was against having a pool as having a pool was a luxury. The pool was not open for the first time this year, last year. Ernie stated that there must be some sort of procedure of who closes the pool in the fall. Who's responsible for making it close properly and who checks that the person closed it properly. Ernie said that maybe the pumps wouldn't have malfunctioned. If water was left in there and it froze up, thawed, and froze up again that could have lasted. Ernie said that it had to be a yearlong thing such as the cracks that were around the pool as they don't happen one day to the next. Mayor Kim stated that all the cracks around the pool happened around 3 years ago. What happened during that time was the former BA got a contractor to get it done but the contractor never came and then it started all over again. Mayor Kim stated that they were kind of advancing as they opened up a snack bar as it was closed for many years. People were complaining about it. The roof was structurally dangerous and leaking. They were slowly but surely trying to fix it. Mayor Kim agreed with Ernie that they should really set up a schedule, write it down, and let the manager of the pool take care of it. Ernie stated that it needs to be operated as a business. Not as far as taxpayers should not have to pay for these repairs and preventative maintenance should be a big thing.

Nam Young Kim stated she came to this meeting for the third time with the same issue for Second Street. She got a call one day from the town one day saying Second Street had a problem, but Nam young had to pay. Mayor Kim asked what she had to pay for. Nam young stated it was for fixing the folding issue. Mayor Kim asked who told her that. Nam young stated that she does not know and that was why she asked what exactly happened. Councilman Min asked when the call was. Nam young said that it was several months ago. The lady who called stated the engineer came to Second Street and figured out the problem. Mayor Kim confirmed they


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did. Nam young stated that she was told to pay. Mayor Kim stated it had to be a misunderstanding. Nam young stated it did not happen at all then on July 14th there was heavy rain. The rain from the street, they put sandbags and bricks but the older lady living nearby can't handle it for herself. Nam young stated they pay a lot in property taxes, housing price balancing, there was a lot of new construction in that area. She continued to say the town could protect their house. Nam young then asked why they have to live in such dangerous circumstances and said it was a shame. Nam young then asked what they were going to do. Mayor Kim asked if she made a complaint a few years ago. Nam young said yes and that it was the same people. Mayor Kim stated that the area was being addressed and told her what happened. Mayor Kim stated that it was not just that area but fourth street as well. That was why they go in together. By next month, they should get a bid so they could fix it. The real problem was that structure was very old. There was no drain on Second Street. The Second Street drain goes to the First Street drain. Mayor Kim added that on Second Street and Fourth Street, there was only drainage on the left side where the pitch was higher which means the water will definitely go over there. Now that they found out the reason, they were preparing for the bid packet. A bid packet was where they go to create drains and then connect it to the main sewage line in the middle of the street. That will be presented next month. So, by September they were going to say the bid winner and after that they were going to do a pre-construction meeting. Then by maybe October, the construction will begin. Mayor Kim asked if anybody else had something to say. Mayor Kim asked for a motion to close and return to the regular session. Councilman Shin motioned, and Councilwoman Won-Yoon seconded.

ADJOURN

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Kim motioned, and Councilwoman Won-Yoon seconded.

Attest:



Sophia H. Jang, RMC
Borough Clerk