

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

Regular Meeting
of the Mayor & Council
February 26, 2026

Borough of Palisades Park
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MAYOR CHONG PAUL KIM CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00PM.

STATEMENT:

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

1. Notice was filed January 13, 2026, 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 is preserved in the Clerk's Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS LEAD BY COUNCILWOMAN LEE.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Kim	Present
Councilman Donohue	Present
Councilman Kwak	Present
Councilwoman Lee	Present
Councilman Min	Present
Councilman Shin	Present
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Present
Borough Attorney Allan Roth	Present
Borough Administrator Roberta Stern	Present

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Sine Die and Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council:	January 5, 2026
Work Session of the Mayor and Council:	January 20, 2026
Executive Session of the Mayor and Council:	January 20, 2026
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council:	January 27, 2026

Mayor Kim asked the council members if there were any comments or discrepancies concerning the adoption of minutes. Mayor Kim asked to move forward to the introduction of Ordinances.

Borough Clerk Sophia Jang said that a vote was needed to move forward because the current session was a Regular Meeting.

Mayor Kim requested for a motion to pass the adoption of minutes.

Councilman Donohue motioned and Councilman Kwak seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as follows:

Councilman Donohue	Yes
Councilman Kwak	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

Mayor Kim thanked Borough Clerk Sophia Jang.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE 2026-3	Authorizing the Sale of Block #734, Lot #1, On the Current Tax Map of the Borough of Palisades in the County of Bergen and Not Needed for Public Use
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Mayor Kim asked Borough Administrator Roberta Stern to summarize Ordinance 2026-3.

Borough Administrator Roberta Stern stated a number of months prior, when they were discussing the third and fourth round of affordable housing. They had started looking at properties that the Borough owned with the idea that if any of them were suitable for affordable housing, they would have somebody build a hundred percent affordable units. These properties were located by the borough planner, and she went to see some of them. Roberta Stern stated other people in town knew them better than she did.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Unfortunately, they did also have a company that was interested in doing affordable housing and she had sent them some of the locations and they got back to her and said no, none of the properties would work for them for a hundred percent affordable housing. Roberta Stern continued so, subsequently, it seemed that this particular piece of property, a lot of the other ones were smaller, there were a larger piece of property but there were other considerations. This particular one on Pembroke Way was in the middle of a residential street. Roberta Stern stated it was a dead-end street, very wooded. The terrain wasn't great, but it was a good, buildable lot. Roberta Stern continued and stated it didn't seem that there was any reason for them to continue this property without getting any benefit from it. If somebody did build, purchased the property, and built duplexes or some other residential home - Mayor Kim interjected and stated hopefully a single-family home as well.

Borough Administrator Roberta Stern replied they would be able to finish that street. They had some elderly people who lived across the street that were always having issues. In fact, Roberta Stern had to speak to DPW Deputy Superintendent Charlie Chung because a resident called her to complain about snow being piled up by her driveway that day. Roberta Stern stated that was the longer version but the short of it was they were hoping that they did well with this. Roberta Stern stated it seemed very obvious if anyone drove around town that people were building everywhere. In some cases, they were knocking down single family homes to build two family homes or duplexes. Roberta Stern stated she thought that this piece of property would sell and that the borough would have some nice rate-ables and would add to that residential street.

Mayor Kim thanked Roberta Stern and stated he agree with her. Mayor Kim stated he went there and the woods were not taken care of and would also be dangerous for kids. Mayor Kim stated it didn't look good for the environment, or for the residential location. If they allowed private investors to build and build homes there, it would make the environment and the location better looking. Mayor Kim believed there was a little bit of area where they could actually build up and reduce the flooding in that location as well.

Roberta Stern stated there were terrain issues - Mayor Kim interjected and agreed there was.

Roberta Stern stated that was considered when the price was arrived at.

Mayor Kim stated it was a sight for sore eyes, it was all surrounded by residents, and no one maintained it. Mayor Kim stated it was still all woods, and now hopefully, if someone purchased it, they could turn it into a tax rate-able, and it completed the environment. Mayor Kim stated he appreciated Roberta Stern's work.

Roberta Stern stated there was actually no loss there.

Mayor Kim repeated there was no loss.

Roberta Stern stated if they didn't sell it, they didn't sell it. But if they did, they were going to have some new developments there that was beneficial for the town.

Mayor Kim stated right the rate-ables too. Mayor Kim stated it also didn't look good and asked council members if they had any questions.

Councilman Min asked what the square footage was of the lot.

Roberta Stern replied it was point thirty-two, plus or minus acre. Roberta Stern spoke to Building Official Tom O'Malley because she was not that familiar with the districts and zoning. Tom O'Malley told her it was a double A-zone, and that it was suitable for residential.

Allan Roth replied it was big enough to subdivide.

Roberta Stern agreed.

Mayor Kim stated it would turn into two-two wholes.

Councilman Min asked for the size of the lot.

Roberta Stern stated it was point three-two-three. Roberta Stern mentioned that somebody else said point three-two-four, but they would worry about that when they had a buyer.

Councilman Kwak stated in regard to the community, and asked Tax Collector Michael Apicella if he could give a little bit of insight in a ballpark range, what the current tax rate was and current annual tax amount on a new development duplex.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim questioned new duplexes.

Councilman Kwak replied yes.

Mayor Kim replied \$15,000 to \$17,000 per year per side.

Councilman Kwak thanked him and stated he just wanted to know what potential they had for the municipality.

Roberta Stern stated it was better than nothing, which was the way she was looking at it.

Councilman Kwak stated that was correct.

Councilwoman Won-Yoo stated she had a question. In the master plan, this site was excluded. It stated, with a note, that it was a wet land which was some kind of environment.

Roberta Stern stated the Wolf Creek was there.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if the area was allowed to be developed on.

Allan Roth and Roberta Stern replied yes.

Allan Roth stated it was developable. Not all of it but it was developable.

Roberta Stern replied right, it was an odd-shaped property and not a perfect square. Roberta Stern stated the part that would be used would be the best part. Roberta Stern stated if they went up on 12th Street, and saw the way that property dropped off in the back. Roberta Stern stated they built two huge condominiums and on the other side it was the same thing, because as you drove around there was some of the terrain in other areas, which was a similar kind of problem with the site. Allan Roth interjected and stated there was a little creek there. Roberta Stern stated people build and if they wanted to use it, they either fill in, and blast the rocks.

Mayor Kim stated when that happened, it really reduced the flooding, and the dispersion of the water. Mayor Kim stated there was seepage tanks, and there was water preservation when a hole was built there. Mayor Kim repeated it should really help with the flooding as well.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had another question. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked when they set up the sale of the property, were there any process requirements by the local government services?

Roy Riggitano replied no, they just had to go through a resolution and a public auction.

Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions. Mayor Kim requested a motion to close and open to the public.

Councilman Kwak made a motion.

Mayor Kim asked for a second.

Councilman Donohue seconded the motion.

All joined in favor.

Following the public participation section, Mayor Kim stated to move onto the introduction of ordinances.

Sophia Jang stated they needed to take a vote.

Mayor Kim requested a motion to pass the introduction of Ordinance 2026-3.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as follows:

Councilman Donohue	Yes
Councilman Kwak	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Abstain

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Abstain

Sophia Jang stated the ordinance received four “yes” votes and two “abstain” votes therefore this ordinance had passed.

Mayor Kim stated he was starting to notice there were some council members that liked to abstain, which he greatly discouraged. Mayor Kim stated the good people of Palisades Park voted for the council to make decisions which were sometimes tough decisions. Mayor Kim stated abstaining could be an easy way out, but they weren't there to abstain.

Borough Clerk Sophia Jang asked if she could announce the introduction of ordinance. Sophia Jang announced Ordinance 2026-3 “Authorizing the Sale of Block #734, Lot #1, On the Current Tax Map of the Borough of Palisades in the County of Bergen and Not Needed for Public Use” was introduced and passed on the first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor Council held on February 26, 2026. All published in accordance with the law, said ordinance would be considered for the first reading and adoption at the meeting held on February 26, 2026 at 6:00PM in the council chamber at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said ordinance. A copy of the ordinance would be posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall and would be available at the Office of the Borough Clerk.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR ORDINANCE 2026-3:

Mayor Kim reminded the public that they had three minutes to come up and talk about Ordinance 2026-3. When no one volunteered Mayor Kim requested a motion to close and come back to our Regular Session.

Councilman Kwak made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. All joined in favor.

ORDINANCE 2026-4	Amending Chapter 153:” Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse” of the Code of the Borough of Palisades Park
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Mayor Kim asked council members to please focus on the underlined portions of Ordinance 2026-4 as those were the modifications brought by the Borough Attorney. Mayor Kim stated thanks to the Deputy Mayor Councilman Charlie Shin who was also in charge of the DPW. Mayor Kim stated Councilman Shin thought that the DPW spent too many resources picking up anything, anywhere, any place for the residents. Mayor Kim stated he appreciated that and asked if council members had any questions about Ordinance 2026-4. When no questions arose, Mayor Kim requested a motion to close and open to the public?

Councilman Donohue made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Kwak. All joined in favor.

Following the public participation portion, Mayor Kim requested a motion to pass the introduction of Ordinance 2026-4.

Councilman Kwak made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. The motion carried on a roll call vote which was recorded as follows:

Councilman Donohue	Yes
Councilman Kwak	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilman Shin	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

Borough Clerk Sophia Jang announced Ordinance 2026-4 “Amending Chapter 153:” Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse” of the Code of the Borough of Palisades Park” was introduced and passed on the first meeting at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor Council held on February 26, 2026. All published in accordance with the law, said ordinance would be considered for the first reading and adoption at the meeting held on February 26, 2026 at 6:00PM in the council chambers at which time all persons interests may appear for or against the passage of said ordinance. A copy of the ordinance would be posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall and would be available at the Office of the Borough Clerk.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR ORDINANCE 2026-4:

Mayor Kim reminded the public that they had three minutes each to talk about Ordinance 2026-4. When no one volunteered to speak, Mayor Kim requested a motion to close to the public and come back to the Regular Session.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilwoman Lee made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. All joined in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- RESOLUTION 2026-59 Claims
RESOLUTION 2026-60 Requesting the Approval of the Director of Local Government Services to Defer School Taxes
RESOLUTION 2026-61 Appointing Borough Auditor
RESOLUTION 2026-62 Amending Contract with Piti Pats Inc for IT Consulting Services
RESOLUTION 2026-63 Amending Resolution 2026-18, Appointing Borough Engineer 1
RESOLUTION 2026-64 Authorization of Refund for Tax Payment in the Amount of \$7,543.00 to Blueland Title Agency, Inc (Re: 53 W. Columbia Avenue)
RESOLUTION 2026-65 Adopting the Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
RESOLUTION 2026-66 Appointing Fund Commissioner
RESOLUTION 2026-67 Amending Resolution 2025-300 of Borough Attorney, Ruderman & Roth
RESOLUTION 2026-68 Authorize Payment of Change Order for 12 Bellview (Re: Westcraft Builders Inc)
RESOLUTION 2026-69 Authorizing Application for 2026 Recreational Grant
RESOLUTION 2026-70 Authorizing Endorsement of the NJDOT Treatment Works Approval Application
RESOLUTION 2026-71 Award Filtration System Replacement Contract for Municipal Pool
RESOLUTION 2026-72 Award Contract to Biff Duncan for Managed Off -Site Backup Service Program
RESOLUTION 2026-73 Allowing three bids for contracts under threshold
RESOLUTION 2026-74 Approving Eighth Amendment (Re: 15 Grand Avenue)
RESOLUTION 2026-75 Approving Eighth Amendment (Re: 21 Grand Avenue)
RESOLUTION 2026-76 Acceptance of Retirement (Re: Police Sergeant Frank DeCicco)
RESOLUTION 2026-77 Authorizing Termination of Participation in SHBP
RESOLUTION 2026-78 Authorizing Joint Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund
RESOLUTION 2026-79 Authorizing Terminating Employee (Re: M. Bonaguaro)
RESOLUTION 2026-80 Mayor's Appointment
RESOLUTION 2026-81 Hiring Borough Clerk's Assistant (Re: J. Choi)
RESOLUTION 2026-82 Hiring Unpaid Internship (Re: J. Kim)
RESOLUTION 2026-83 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate (Re: 201 12th Street Parking Spot)
RESOLUTION 2026-84 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate (Re: 201 12th Street Unit #2)
RESOLUTION 2026-85 Acceptance of New Junior Firefighter (Re: E. Morin)
RESOLUTION 2026-86 Binding Resolution Adopted Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1 within the Fair Housing Act, Committing to Adopt Implementing Legislation in Connection with Eventual Resolution of Fourth Round Issues and Disputes
RESOLUTION 2026-87 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 203, Lot 3
RESOLUTION 2026-88 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 626, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-89 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 720, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-90 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 108, Lot 6.02
RESOLUTION 2026-91 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 704, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-92 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 221, Lot 12
RESOLUTION 2026-93 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 110, Lot 4
RESOLUTION 2026-94 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 420, Lots 4 & 5
RESOLUTION 2026-95 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 107, Lot 1.01
RESOLUTION 2026-96 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 109, Lot 3
RESOLUTION 2026-97 Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 601, Lot 18

Mayor Kim asked if council members had any questions especially because the CFO was there to entertain their questions.

- RESOLUTION 2026-60 Requesting the Approval of the Director of Local Government Services to Defer School Taxes

Councilman Donohue asked if Resolution 2026-60 could be explained.

Mayor Kim asked Roberta Stern to explain as Councilman Donohue was just asking what it was.

Roberta Stern asked Roy Riggitano if he wanted to speak about this resolution.

Roy Riggitano stated that this was a procedural matter in which the school received the full school funding. Roy Riggitano stated it was not delayed, it was deferred.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilman Donohue thanked him.

Mayor Kim asked if there were any other questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-61 Appointing Borough Auditor

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had a question on Resolution 2026-61. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated when she looked at the contract, it was too open-ended and asked if they had a limit of how much the borough would pay that year.

Roberta Stern stated they should have a packet attached to that.

Mayor Kim stated there was.

Roberta Stern stated it was not open-ended at all.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied it was open-ended.

Roberta Stern stated it spelled out specifically what was being charged.

Roberta Stern stated she hoped all council members had that.

Mayor Kim stated preparation for annual debt, three thousand. *<indistinct>*, ten thousand. The fee for preparation of unaudited annual *<indistinct>* statement will be fourteen thousand. Preparation of supplemental debt statement and capital budget *<indistinct>* is fifteen hundred.
<indistinct interjections from Councilwoman Won-Yoon>

Mayor Kim stated he wasn't done yet. Mayor Kim stated this had also been verified from the former, prior, auditor and was actually a better prorate. Mayor Kim asked if he was correct.

Roberta Stern replied he was.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated when they looked at the contract, on page eleven, just before additional services, the boroughs fee for the year would be \$51,000, and ended December 31st, 2026.

Roberta Stern replied that was right and the total was about \$79,000.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she understood but then she noticed there were a whole bunch of additional services. In the resolution, it didn't exclude any kind of additional services at all.

Allan Roth stated he wasn't going to do this for every resolution. The resolution identified and adopted the proposal and the scope of work. Allan Roth stated they had this conversation before, and in this particular case, there was a defined rate for certain projects. Allan Roth stated there was a fee for work and any additional work had to be approved by the council.

Mayor Kim stated the Borough Attorney worked on a flat rate concerning the borough businesses. If there were extracurricular, more extraordinary jobs that he had to provide, he would charge the borough.

Roberta Stern stated just like every order of jobs if in fact there were exceptional things that were asked to.

Allan Roth stated hypothetically, if they had a question and wanted an outside opinion from the CFO. They would be able to talk to the auditor about that. If they had an issue with the state, and the CFO needed the assistance of the auditor they could hopefully get the fee but if they couldn't and if it was excessive, they would have to make an appearance down at the state. Allan Roth continued to explain that they would have testimony, which may result in additional fee. Allan Roth stated regardless, that would have to be approved, even though it was encompassed in the engagement letter. Allan Roth stated it still may be something that would lead to an innocuous fee. Allan Roth was comfortable with both the resolution and the attachments presented.

Mayor Kim stated he agreed as well. Mayor Kim stated council members just received a professional opinion from the Borough Attorney, who was in charge of writing the documents. Mayor Kim stated he hoped that they could respect his position and his opinion, and there was an opportunity to talk about this in the Work Session. Mayor Kim stated at the time, it was a Regular Session, so they wanted to decide on as much as they could.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated in the Work Session, they didn't have the contract presented.
Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she was talking about financial internal control, as opposed to anything.

Mayor Kim stated they just answered Councilwoman Won-Yoon's question and that was it.

Roberta Stern repeated that was it.

RESOLUTION 2026-77 Authorizing Termination of Participation in SHBP

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she had one more question about Resolutions 2026-77 and Resolutions 2026-78. Councilwoman Won-Yoon thought they were going to receive a side-by-side comparison, which they didn't receive.

Allan Roth stated because they were required under the Public Employee Relations Act, when they changed health benefits, it had to be exactly the same. There was no side-by-side because nothing had changed. Allan Roth continued, by contract and by law, they were required to do what the contract stated which was equal to or better than. Allan Roth stated if the contract said, "similar to", then he could understand there may be a discrepancy. But in this case, the plan had to be equal to or better than. Allan Roth stated every one of the boroughs contracts said so. With that being said, there was no side-by-side comparison because there was no change in the plan. Allan Roth stated that was for Resolution 2026-77 and Resolution 2026-78. Resolution 2026-77 was just a form of resolution that the state provided, and this was the terms that they had to meet to remove themselves from the state health benefits. Allan Roth stated therefore Resolution 2026-77 was just a removal.

RESOLUTION 2026-78 Authorizing Joint Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund

Allan Roth explained Resolution 2026-78 was entering into the fund. The fund itself would provide the same conditions for medical treatment, medical supplies, and everything else employees were currently receiving. If they negotiated change to a lesser plan, then that would be something that they would absolutely provide to the council because they would need to know what plan they were changing to.

Councilman Min stated he had a question. Councilman Min asked if they had to have the same or equal plan, would employees have the same network provider?

Allan Roth stated the network provider, to be substantially compliant, had to be considered, by law, to be ninety percent, he believed. Allan Roth stated this was because providers came in and came out. Allan Roth stated one week the provider could be in, the next week the provider could be out, and there was nothing that the health insurance carrier could do about this. Allan Roth stated they give you some latitude in terms of doctors almost like a pool of doctors, but the pool had to be substantially similar. Allan Roth stated not every doctor might be in the plan, but most of the doctors were.

Councilman Min stated for example if an employee went to see a doctor for a critical issue such as a mental issue or obtaining assistance from a professional.

Mayor Kim asked if Councilman Min said mental issues.

Councilman Min stated mental or whatever required care. Councilman Min stated if the network was nearby and B-Med didn't offer that network, or that doctor.

Allan Roth stated the network was going to be comparable. If an employee called a doctor, and the doctor was not in the B-Med plan, then they were not in the B-Med plan, and the employee would have to find another doctor. Allan Roth stated his point was, the law stated equal to or greater than. Allan Roth stated that was a good question, because the pool of doctors were a separate category under that. It did not have to be identical, because people came in and out of plans all the time as well as doctors. Allan Roth stated there were some doctors that took one insurance and some took another.

Roberta Stern commented within that group.

Allan Roth repeated within the same group.

Roberta Stern stated that day she heard of another instance where a company was changing from Blue Cross Blue Shield, because they had been disappointed in their coverage, and they were going to Aetna. Roberta Stern stated she would say ninety something percent of the time, the same doctors who were in Horizon Blue Cross were in Aetna. However, the difference with what Councilman Min was talking about was the type of reason they wanted to be in the B-Med plan. If somebody needed a special doctor, and for some reason Horizon Blue Cross, because it was a huge corporation, wouldn't even entertain it,

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

they would have to go to someone else. Roberta Stern stated whereas the B-Med Plan, because they were members and were represented, they could speak up for their person and try to help them as much as possible. Roberta Stern stated there were a lot of instances, which she didn't think was perfect to go into but was very happy to tell people individually where somebody needed special treatment and Horizon Blue Cross turned them down and the B-Med. Because there were people that spoke up for them, they were able to get this very special protocol treatment. Roberta Stern stated this person had suffered a very tragic accident but was in very good health that day but only because B-Med allowed them to take advantage of the special protocol.

Allan Roth stated the other part was that, with a smaller company like the borough. If an employee didn't want to take the B-Med Plan or was not involved in this plan—Roberta Stern interjected and stated he had to stop talking about plans, because it was about the provider.

Allan Roth stated that was how it was taught. They would come to him and negotiate a term where the borough might be included into the overall plan. So, it was helpful and they had more of a say. Allan Roth stated they didn't have as much say with Blue Cross because it was a monster company.

Mayor Kim stated they would put it at three points. First of all, every single month, they were being charged thirty-six-point five percent of the previous year's insurance. At the time, all of the employees, the staff, the union. Mayor Kim stated they were all getting hit, even the Borough. That was why they choose a plan that was more competitive, cost-effective, and a B Plan. Mayor Kim stated secondly, it was not about what they thought but what was best for the employees. Mayor Kim stated it was up to them to decide and was their responsibility to provide employees with options. Mayor Kim stated it seemed like they were coming together. Mayor Kim asked if there were any other questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-73 Allowing Three Bids For Contracts Under Threshold

Councilman Shin asked if they needed three quotations for transactions between seven thousand nine-hundred fifty to fifty-three thousand. Councilman Shin stated this resolution was allowing just two bids. Councilman Shin stated the year before, the town was in a deficit, and even that year they were in a very hard situation. Councilman Shin stated if there was any way they could save money, they had to do it. Councilman Shin stated by getting more quotations, they could just save it. For example, one case, last December, the borough received three bids. One bid was thirty-three hundred thirty-five thousand. The other one was three hundred ninety-seven thousand, and the last one was four-hundred thirty-seven thousand - Mayor Kim interjected and stated there was a big difference.

Councilman Shin stated there were three quotations. Councilman Shin stated if they just only received two quotations, they would have had to pay three-hundred ninety-seven dollars a savings of forty-thousand dollars. Councilman Shin stated he knew the Borough Administrator had a lot of work, but if they worked more, they could save more money.

Roberta Stern stated she never had a problem because the difference was the following. Councilman Shin was talking about bids. Roberta Stern stated the borough went out to bid and had to accept the lowest qualified bidder. This particular thing was a local finance directive. Roberta Stern stated they did not abide by it. Since she had been working for the borough, she had always been getting three quotes for the bids between the old sixty-five hundred and the old forty-three thousand. Right, before it went to building. Roberta Stern stated the point was, she did that only because she was accustomed to getting it, but she had no problem getting three quotes between that by all means.

Mayor Kim thanked Roberta Stern. Mayor Kim stated he was going to rephrase this. Mayor Kim stated this was just what it was by the law – Councilman Shin interjected by Mayor Kim asked him to let him finish. Mayor Kim stated they already talked about this with Roberta Stern, and he knew Councilman Shin had a problem with it, which he agreed with. Mayor Kim stated the borough administrator would continue to provide three quotes.

Roberta Stern stated they would just change that.

Councilman Shin asked Roberta Stern if she had any problems with that.

Roberta Stern and Mayor Kim stated they had no problems.

Roberta Stern stated this was the local finance and wasn't her.

Councilman Shin replied actually, the local finance asked for at least two quotations, so it was a little different.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Roberta Stern agreed.

Mayor Kim stated that was why they were passing this, just to make it legit. Mayor Kim stated they were listening to the good advice - Roberta Stern interjected and stated Resolution 2026-73 would be changed. Mayor Kim stated no matter what, they were going to make it through.

Councilman Shin thanked everyone.

Councilman Kwak stated what Councilman Shin mentioned was his question. Councilman Kwak questioned how they were going to do the amendment, and whether they should pass it that night and then make the amendments after or - Roberta Stern interjected and stated no, just pass it at that time because it was a minimal change.

RESOLUTION 2026-61 Appointing Borough Auditor

Councilman Kwak stated he knew there was a question about internal finance control. Councilman Kwak asked in terms of the savings and where they were, if they could have a certain differentiation of how much money was saved through this contract.

Roberta Stern stated starting without anything, as it happened the boroughs new auditor was sitting there, and there was a difference of about thirty-five thousand dollars between what they charged the previous year and what was included. Roberta Stern stated by the way, it was the same as it was two or three years before, because she had all those totaled. Roberta Stern stated the year prior was the highest that they had in four years.

Councilman Kwak asked if they would be saving a lot.

Mayor Kim replied yes, financially they were saving a lot. Mayor Kim stated it was also a recommendation of the staffs, all staffs. Mayor Kim clarified he was speaking about the attorney, borough administrator, and chief financial officer. Mayor Kim stated everybody was saying that they should give this person a try. They had some problems the year before. Mayor Kim stated council members may not have known the internal intricacies of it, but they did have a problem, and they were kind of stuck. Mayor Kim thought it was a good thing to do, try somebody new. Mayor Kim stated as a matter of fact, if they decided, he wanted to say hello to the person named Paul Clerge. Mayor Kim invited Paul Clerge to please stand up, come up, and say hello. Mayor Kim stated he could possible give them a little more of his experience with other Boroughs.

Paul Clerge thanked the mayor and stated he was a part of Lerch, Vinci, & Bliss. Paul Clerge stated he had been doing municipal auditing for thirty-five plus years as the firm started in 1990.

Mayor Kim asked if that was thirty-six years old.

Paul Clerge confirmed that was correct. Paul Clerge stated one thing that was unique with their law firm, was that they only specialized in municipal, Board of Education, government entity audits. They didn't have a tax department and were not doing commercial work. Paul Clerge stated they were not crossing over individuals with no experience on the government side as their whole team had always specialized in. Paul Clerge stated they probably did about forty municipalities, and about eighty to ninety Board of Educations in the State of NJ. Paul Clerge stated they were one of the largest on that side and took pride in what they did. Paul Clerge stated they certainly felt like it was an outstanding service.

Roberta Stern stated it was a well-established firm with very good credentials and reputation.

Mayor Kim stated by the number of accounts they had, he assumed that. Mayor Kim stated he just wanted to make sure their attention didn't diminish because the firm had too many accounts.

Paul Clerge assured they would certainly handle Palisades Park and looked forward to it.

Mayor Kim thanked him.

Paul Clerge thanked them for the opportunity.

Mayor Kim asked if there were any questions council members wanted to ask for credentials.

Councilman Kwak asked what the staff size was and how big his department was.

Paul Clerge stated their total operation was about forty people as they fluctuated.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim stated one person per municipality.

Roberta Stern stated no, not really.

Paul Clerge stated it didn't work that way, but it was a good analogy.

Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-86 Binding Resolution Adopted Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1 within the Fair Housing Act, Committing to Adopt Implementing Legislation in Connection with Eventual Resolution of Fourth Round Issues and Disputes

Councilman Min asked with the adoption of Resolution 2026-86, were they committing to any future settlement terms.

Allan Roth replied no, definitely not without a council vote. Allan Roth stated they couldn't solve anything without a council vote. Not according to this, but Allan Roth knew in the past councilmembers had not voted on certain settlements. Allan Roth stated he wouldn't let that happen as they had to know what they were spending their money on. In this particular case, the binding resolution was a required resolution to be passed. Allan Roth stated it was basically a standard form being utilized by all the towns that had not yet finalized their fourth round just as the borough had not yet finalized their fourth round. Allan Roth stated they were still working in combination with the third round and the fourth round. So, this resolution was to buy them sometime. Allan Roth stated by passing the resolution that it meant they were acting in good faith, and they were going to comply with the law although they weren't there yet.

Councilman Min asked if it was fair to say that the binding resolution was part of the legal protection for the Borough.

Allan Roth replied it wasn't necessarily a legal protection to the Borough but if they didn't pass it, then they were not going to be compliant with the March 15th deadline.

Councilman Min asked if they were going to lose the immunity for – Allan Roth interjected and replied no as that was a part of it.

Councilman Min asked if any future housing decisions, such as affordable housing, and developing would go through all the different bodies as a separate process.

Allan Roth replied yes, but the fact of the matter was, unless the court was going to order the borough to accept it, if they entered the settlement, it had to be passed by the governing body. Allan Roth stated if it was ordered by the court, they had no choice. Allan Roth stated he was absolutely correct.

RESOLUTION 2026-71 Award Filtration System Replacement Contract for Municipal Pool

Councilman Kwak stated he had a question regarding the completion of the project. Councilman Kwak stated this was also for Karen Nascenti, the pool coordinator. Councilman Kwak stated Karen Nascenti had so much work going on trying to set up with the pool because of the situation that they were in back in January, February, and at that time. Trying to coordinate getting the pool open on time. Councilman Kwak stated the borough was awarding the contract and with everything going on, he didn't know if they still had an ability to potentially open on time for the community.

Roberta Stern replied absolutely. The building permits were prepared, and the contractor was just waiting for this so the next day she could hopefully send him everything. Roberta Stern stated they could order their equipment, and everything was ready to go so it was actually not an issue. Roberta Stern stated she would have liked for this not to have been held off for a month, but they did and the contractor was okay with it and would be going forward.

Councilman Kwak asked if the amendments regarding the structure of the filtration system and everything was brand new.

Roberta Stern stated everything was brand new and wouldn't look disgusting in that building anymore.

Councilman Kwak replied beautiful.

Mayor Kim stated he believed the pool was where the Deputy Mayor Council was in charge. Mayor Kim asked Councilman Kwak if he was in charge of the pool.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilman Kwak confirmed he was.

Mayor Kim apologized and stated the deputy mayor was in charge the year prior.

Councilman Kwak stated that was why he asked.

Mayor Kim stated he would have liked for Councilman Kwak to work with Karen Nascenti the pool manager. Mayor Kim stated back in the day, the borough allowed more diverse, longer-range residents from the neighborhood – even from across the river. Mayor Kim stated now, they were restricting the membership within the certain communities around them restricting generating revenue. Mayor Kim stated he was sure there were pros-and-cons with it.

Councilman Kwak confirmed.

Mayor Kim stated if he found that out for them, he would appreciate it.

Councilman Kwak agreed to do so.

Mayor Kim thanked him and asked if there were any more questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-87	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 203, Lot 3
RESOLUTION 2026-88	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 626, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-89	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 720, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-90	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 108, Lot 6.02
RESOLUTION 2026-91	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 704, Lot 1
RESOLUTION 2026-92	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 221, Lot 12
RESOLUTION 2026-93	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 110, Lot 4
RESOLUTION 2026-94	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 420, Lots 4 & 5
RESOLUTION 2026-95	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 107, Lot 1.01
RESOLUTION 2026-96	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 109, Lot 3
RESOLUTION 2026-97	Approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal for Block 601, Lot 18

Councilman Shin asked concerning Resolutions 2026-87 to Resolution 2026-97, what happened if these resolutions were to be rejected by the Council.

Roberta Stern stated the boroughs attorney, Greg Pasquale, was at the executive session and explained all of this - Mayor Kim interjected and stated he was there too. Roberta Stern stated these were all cases that the judge was waiting for them to settle because stipulations were made a long time before. Roberta Stern asked Roy Riggitano if she was mistaken on that because these particular ones were older and there was a reason that Mr. Pasquale needed them done so that the judge didn't -

Roy Riggitano completed her sentence and stated so the judge didn't save on the interest. Roy Riggitano stated it was an agreement made on the interest, which was in the hundred-thousand-dollar range. Roy Riggitano stated if they didn't approve it, they were going to pay down the line.

Mayor Kim stated they were going to pay a little more and a lot more on the court fees. Mayor Kim stated it wasn't just Palisades Park to Councilman Shin. Mayor Kim stated it was best that they amend it because they had a public case. Mayor Kim stated it was correct, as they verified on both ends. Mayor Kim stated they should expect to settle that and try to reduce interests and fees that accrued from the borough not paying.

Roberta Stern stated at some point, when they kept kicking the can down the road - Mayor Kim interjected and stated this is what they had been doing for fifteen years. Roberta Stern stated when this happened for a long time, things built up - Mayor Kim interjected and stated they were actually cleaning up. Roberta Stern stated they were taking these off and cleaning up. Roberta Stern stated they wouldn't have this type of thing going forward. Roberta Stern stated they did not know how many would be filed that year as they had until May 1st to file tax appeals for that year. Roberta Stern stated they were finally getting rid of a lot of dead weight. Roberta Stern stated so often, judges didn't like to see a town holding back, especially when they had a settlement.

Mayor Kim stated he remembered there was a law change.

Councilman Shin stated his question with this kind of appeal was, the oldest one was from 2017, which was eight years old. Councilman Shin asked if most of these were five to six years old, then they had been held. Councilman Shin stated that year was a financially difficult year for the town so why should they settle all these things together that year.

Allan Roth stated it wasn't really an option at that point, if they didn't settle then it went to court.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim stated there was a law that changed which restricted the borough from holding and kicking the can for fifteen years before the new administration. Mayor Kim stated at that time they had to really settle it within a couple of years. Mayor Kim stated the new law had changed and they were doing the right job. Mayor Kim stated they didn't want to hurt the residents who felt like they had been incorrectly getting the facts. Mayor Kim stated they were going to bomb this, and it was best that they paid because late fees and the counter-legal representations in court seemed to be fruitless. Mayor Kim stated it had been written and had been assessed at pool parties. Mayor Kim stated they should try to pay everybody off as fast as they could.

Roberta Stern stated these were court ordered and not just arbitrary.

Councilman Shin asked a question regarding the yearly budget.

Mayor Kim stated he understood that and they all felt the same way. Mayor Kim stated it was better to hold it, and to pay it at that point in time because it would be much more if they didn't. This was a procedure that had to go through an appeal. Mayor Kim stated all those kinds of things costed a lot of money including interest.

Roberta Stern stated then they had to pay the borough attorneys more.

Mayor Kim repeated and the borough attorneys. Mayor Kim stated they should settle it and move forward as he thought that was the proper way to manage. Mayor Kim asked if there were any more questions. Mayor Kim stated while council members thought about more questions he wanted to say hello and introduce the borough engineer Colliers.

Roberta Stern stated the engineer had a report.

Mayor Kim stated he could do the report later.

Roberta Stern stated they just wanted to say hello.

Mayor Kim requested a motion – Councilman Kwak made a motion.

Mayor Kim stated he didn't finish. Mayor Kim requested a motion to accept consent agenda Resolution 2026-59 through Resolution 2026-97.

Councilman Kwak made a motion and Councilman Donohue seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as follows:

Councilman Donohue	Yes (Councilman Donohue stated he was content with all the explanations)
Councilman Kwak	Yes (Councilman Kwak stated Roberta Stern did a great job on the park for the recreation grant. Councilman Kwak really thought that it would bring some really great improvements to the community, little by little. Pieces that they would be able to improve on. Mayor Kim asked what it was. Councilman Kwak replied it was the basketball court for the park. Roberta Stern stated it was at Columbus Park, where the basketball court was. Roberta Stern stated it was not appropriate for pickle ball but would be passive exercise equipment. Mayor Kim stated there was exercise equipment exterior, outdoor that the residents could enjoy. Councilman Kwak stated that was correct.
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes – (No for Resolutions 2026-66, 67, 68, 73, 77, 78) Sophia Jang asked if she could verify the Resolution number. Councilman Min confirmed that was correct. After Councilman Shins vote, Councilman Min stated he wanted to change his no vote for 2026-73 to a yes vote as long as the stipulation for three quotes would apply. Mayor Kim replied it was a stipulation.
Councilman Shin	Yes – Councilman Shin first stated he would vote no for 2026-73. because they needed to get three quotes. Mayor Kim stated they already changed that and it was a miniscule thing that was recorded. Councilman Shin asked if it was changed or if there were any stipulations. Sophia Jang explained that was why they had to announce it because they just passed the consent agenda. Mayor Kim stated to Sophia Jang that was what they just said

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Councilwoman Won-Yoon before. Sophia Jang asked if she could verify that Councilman Shin votes yes for everything. Councilman Shin confirmed.
Yes (No for Resolutions 2026-61, 77, 78)

Sophia Jang announced the consent agenda passed.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she didn't receive the contact information for the new committee members. Additionally, she wanted to point out on the website that the environment commission was entirely blank. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated Roberta Stern had to ask Doo Young Kang, the website manager to change that. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated anyways, she needed all the contact information of all those members.

Mayor Kim stated she could ask Borough Clerk Sophia Jang.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied she didn't think she knew that information.

Mayor Kim stated she did as she was the record keeper and he gave his information.
Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated whoever it was, she needed the information sent to her.

Mayor Kim asked if that was it.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon confirmed that was it.

Councilman Donohue stated he wanted to thank the herculean effort led by Mayor Kim with the snow removal. Councilman Donohue asked if they knew all of the names of the people who participated, and stated just by looking at the Facebook videos, emails, and communication back and forth. Councilman Donohue stated he wasn't involved but it took a lot of communication and teamwork and also spur of the moment decision making by the people involved. Councilman Donohue thought in all honesty, maybe they learned a little bit from the first snow removal. Councilman Donohue thought it was a tremendous job. With that being said, he knew there was going to be some critics out there, but it seemed like they responded to so many requests made by the citizens. Councilman Donohue stated kudos for the guys and well done.

Mayor Kim thanked him and stated coming from Councilman Donohue it was a compliment.

Councilman Kwak stated right off the bat, he wanted to concur with Councilman Donohue. Councilman Kwak stated he really did appreciate the DPW and the Mayor's work. It was an echoing of the amount of listening that these governing bodies does. When there was an issue or comment and it was posted on Facebook, it was taken care of almost immediately. Councilman Kwak stated the response that they had, the work that the DPW and the police, Mr. Beck, Captain Rotundo, everybody did. Councilman Kwak stated they made sure that the community was still functioning, making sure cars weren't getting destroyed and snowed in and plowed in and all that. Councilman Kwak stated their coordination had really created a system for the town to improve and he thanked everyone but especially for the DPW. Councilman Kwak stated they had guys that had been working non-stop, which was unbelievable. Councilman Kwak shouted out Charlie Chung. Councilman Kwak stated following up on top of that, he reported for the Recreation Department, that on March 28th there would be an Easter event. Additionally, on May 25th would be the Memorial Day Parade.

Mayor Kim asked for the dates.

Councilman Kwak repeated. Councilman Kwak stated on March 28th, they were looking at prospective locations for the Easter egg hunt event for the town, whether it would be either in the High School or at Lindbergh. Councilman Kwak stated they were still ironing out the details but invited family and friends. Councilman Kwak stated they would have fun, a bunch of candy, a bunch of great food, and a lot of great entertainment for residents. Councilman Kwak stated they were also looking into the World Cup event. Councilman Kwak knew that they were trying to do something for Palisades Park. They had certain dates for the U.S.A games and also the Korean games. Councilman Kwak stated they had really great matchups for certain groups. For the US, they were playing Paraguay. Korea would be playing Mexico. Councilman Kwak stated these were going to be really huge, amazing events, so they would keep them posted on that. For the games coming up in June, they looked forward to really providing a great experience as well. Councilman Kwak stated regarding the pool, he would focus on working with Karen Nascenti to get the pool up and running and have some more great events. Councilman Kwak stated just as a note, if anyone was a dog owner, he was trying to pitch an idea from Karen Nascenti's daughter to do a dog swim day on the day of closing the pool. Councilman Kwak stated they were prospectively looking at an idea to do a

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

dog swim day. Councilman Kwak stated assured this would be at a time kids wouldn't be in the pool anymore and dogs can go and enjoy and have a great community day. Councilman Kwak stated they were there to provide more events, provide more community outreach, and any programs possible. Councilman Kwak stated if there were any ideas or anything residents wanted to pitch to the governing body to please do so. Councilman Kwak stated they could speak to him and reach out to him. Councilman Kwak stated as they all knew, he was there to work for the residents.

Councilman Min reported from the Health Department. Councilman Min stated he thought the notice was already out, but tomorrow the borough was offering free screening. Councilman Min stated it would be from 1:00PM to 3:00PM and everyone was welcome.

Roberta Stern stated there was a typo and the event already took place earlier that day.

Mayor Kim stated that was what he thought. Mayor Kim thought he saw that earlier.

Roberta Stern stated it was the 26th. Roberta Stern stated she thought the same thing, she had it on her desk because she was going to go the next day. Roberta Stern stated she came down, and the event was happening. Roberta Stern stated she spoke to Health Officer Branka Lulic, and it was corrected on the website, even though the flyers were already sent out. Roberta Stern stated it did take place that day and there was a good response.

Mayor Kim thanked Roberta Stern for the notification and asked Councilman Min if he had anything else to report.

Councilman Shin reported that he was in charge of the DPW and the Police Department. Councilman Shin stated he thought the major report was already mentioned by Councilman Kwak. Councilman Shin reported they had three hundred cases handled by DPW in January, including one hundred seventy-six electronic pickups, and two storms of snow removal in January. Councilman Shin stated February's snow removal was tremendous and that was it.

Councilwoman Lee reported from the Finance Department. Councilwoman Lee stated they did have a preliminary budget in place, but they were expecting more material changes to the budget. Councilwoman Lee stated it was premature to report the budget at that time but, she would provide an update once they had a more finalized version of it.

Mayor Kim thanked Councilwoman Lee and stated she held the key. Mayor Kim knew it was a lot of pressure, but they appreciated her support, and service. Mayor Kim stated he was actually very proud that she was working really well with the CFO as a council member. Mayor Kim stated he was very impressed that she understood finance, just like that because he didn't understand half of it. Mayor Kim stated he was very happy they were in good hands.

Councilwoman Lee thanked Mayor Kim.

Mayor Kim reported that he just wanted to get back to the World Cup. Mayor Kim recalled Councilwoman Won-Yoon was given the authority and the responsibility the year before of trying to create the World Cup. Mayor Kim stated she was the representative for Palisades Park and asked if Councilwoman Won-Yoon could provide a report of what happened.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated the year prior, there were two more members, Councilman Shin and Councilman Min also a part of this. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated they discussed it, but she was focusing on more of the Korean community, and Councilman Shin and Councilman Min were going to be there for the rest of Palisades Park.

Mayor Kim asked what she meant by for Palisades Park and stated she didn't designate only he did.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated they discussed it – Mayor Kim interjected and stated his question was very simple. Mayor Kim stated he was trying to figure out what she did since she took the responsibility of making Palisades Park a representative for the World Cup. Mayor Kim stated they all agreed there was a lot of opportunity for the commerce, residents, and the community. Mayor Kim stated he was asking Councilwoman Won-Yoon what she had done for Palisades Park before?

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied as a community member, they actually divided their roles. Councilwoman Won-Yoon would be focusing on being a liaison to NY/NJ community, and then Councilman Min and Councilman Shin were just going to be the Palisades Park liaisons. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated in fact, they were actually more focused on a Korean community. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated on June 11, June 18, and June 24th, there were Korean matches, but all these matches were

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

held in Mexico, so they needed to rent a venue. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated unfortunately, all these matches were happening late at night. For example, on June 11th, the match was taking place at 10:00PM. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated in Palisades Park, there wasn't really a place that they could actually watch that.

Mayor Kim asked, really?

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied, yes because it ended at 1:00AM. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that meant that it would be noisy for the residents so, that was why for most of the town, it was pretty tough unless they had a really big opening. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she was talking to some parks – Mayor Kim interjected and stated some parks.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied yes, like the Palisades Interstate Park. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it was kind of far away from the community, and residential areas. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated June 24th, the Borough of Fort Lee was actually willing to offer their community center to Palisades Park.

Mayor Kim asked if she meant for Palisades Park.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated in Palisades Park, she didn't see— Mayor Kim interjected and replied no, not in Palisades Park but for Palisades Park. Mayor Kim stated she was the representative for the World Cup.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied well, no she was a representative for the Korean community.

Mayor Kim replied no, madame. He remembered the year prior she was very excited. Mayor Kim stated Councilwoman Won-Yoon mentioned this was a good opportunity to make this thing really great for Palisades Park and had asked Mayor Kim if she could take control of that. Mayor Kim stated he had given Councilwoman Won-Yoon the authority to do so.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied yes, but unfortunately, those three matches took place very late at night, and there wasn't really a place in Palisades Park that they could actually have a place to watch parties.

Mayor Kim asked why they couldn't do it inside Soosanghan Pocha?

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked where.

Councilman Min began to ask a question, but Mayor Kim interjected and stated Councilman Min would wait his turn.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied to let Councilman Min comment on it.

Mayor Kim stated no, he was talking to Councilwoman Won-Yoon and after he was done with that, he would talk to Councilman Min. Mayor Kim asked Councilwoman Won-Yoon why she was getting so upset.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied this was a council meeting.

Mayor Kim stated he knew that, but he was asking her a question at that time, and she didn't want to answer. Mayor Kim stated all he wanted was a very simple answer.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that was a private place – Mayor Kim interjected and stated let's make something happen in Palisades Park. Mayor Kim stated this wasn't for him, and it couldn't take place at Overpeck Park. Mayor Kim asked them to wait a minute and wanted to see what Councilwoman Won-Yoon did the year prior. The year prior, Mayor Kim remembered them taking a picture with Councilman Shin. Mayor Kim stated they were at Overpeck and he had some female ladies soccer team with some uniform, and they all took a picture. Mayor Kim stated then, he believed somebody was selling tickets to the pregame, and he didn't know what happened after that.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon questioned pregame.

Mayor Kim replied yeah, pregame.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated she didn't know what Mayor Kim was talking about.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim stated pregame as in like, there was an agency there that was selling these tickets even though he thought they were supposed to be free.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied no.

Mayor Kim asked no.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon repeated she didn't know what Mayor Kim was talking about.

Mayor Kim asked if she remembered that event that Councilman Shin was at as well. Mayor Kim stated they saw that they were selling these tickets with the pregame. Mayor Kim stated he was about to go but couldn't. Mayor Kim stated Councilwoman Won-Yoon was part of selling tickets.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied that was for the September 6th friendly match between US and Korea.

Mayor Kim stated yes and asked how Councilwoman Won-Yoon got those tickets.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied the tickets were from the US Soccer Association. Councilwoman Won-Yoon clarified that they were the ones that sold them.

Mayor Kim asked if they sold them then how did the travel agency get that? Mayor Kim thought they were supposed to be free tickets.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated no, they were not free tickets.

Mayor Kim stated they weren't free. Mayor Kim asked then why would the travel agency sell the tickets when they were free?

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied no they were just volunteering to help the US Soccer Association for the Korean Community.

Mayor Kim asked if that travel agency was top two FIFA.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied no, it was not FIFA. It was the US Soccer Association.

Mayor Kim replied okay, US Soccer Association. Mayor Kim asked and then what happened? They bought the tickets or was it for free?

Councilwoman Won-Yoon repeated again, no they bought the ticket. Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated they helped the US Soccer Association set up the link for the residents to buy it.

Mayor Kim stated then they bought the tickets and they sold them. Mayor Kim stated he understood.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it had nothing to do with - Mayor Kim interjected and stated it has nothing to do with Councilwoman Won-Yoon.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon replied no, she helped them as a volunteer, and it was not for FIFA.

Mayor Kim stated but that was a business.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated it was not a business but a non-profit.

Mayor Kim asked if those travel agencies didn't make any money.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon confirmed that was correct.

Mayor Kim stated he understood. Mayor Kim thanked Councilwoman Won-Yoon. Mayor Kim stated this was what he liked and he was sorry. Mayor Kim stated it was just that the FIFA World Cup, he did with everybody else. Mayor Kim stated they should be done in Palisades Park as much as they could. Mayor Kim stated they had to figure out something else. Mayor Kim stated he thought Councilman Kwak was on the right track because something had to be done in Palisades Park. Mayor Kim stated the second thing was the doggy park. Mayor Kim stated Roberta Stern stated she cancelled the doggy park and asked if she canceled the doggy park.

Roberta Stern replied no - Mayor Kim interjected and thanked her. Roberta Stern stated she said that the pickle ballpark - Mayor Kim interjected and stated he got it and was confused because the doggy park

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

was something that he respected. Roberta Stern stated they had to see where that contractor was because they hadn't heard from them.

Mayor Kim thanked her.

Roberta Stern stated Colliers would help them look into that because the other engineer just left everything.

Mayor Kim stated the last thing was he wanted to give thanks. Mayor Kim stated he wasn't in the field, but he drove around with Councilman Shin, and Councilman Kwak along with the Office of Emergency Management Alex Monteleone. Mayor Kim stated while it was heavily snowing they drove around because the truck was able to handle four by four. Mayor Kim stated the crazy thing was the snow was going sideways. Mayor Kim stated the DPW worked so diligently every single time, and every single day. The DPW pretty much rested for the two days after. Mayor Kim stated when they're burnt out, people were still discontent. Mayor Kim stated the voluntary proactiveness from the Police Department and the Traffic Enforcement Officer's stepped up to the plate. Mayor Kim stated those guys knew how to drive a truck with a plow and had their own equipment as well. It was all part of a cooperation. Mayor Kim stated the TEO's came by to help out as well as the police officers, so he wanted to personally put their name in. Mayor Kim mentioned Chief George Beck, and Captain Jimmy Rotundo.

Roberta Stern stated Lieutenant Chris Beck also went out.

Mayor Kim stated they also had Chris Beck who was also Lieutenant.

Roberta Stern stated also Mike.

Mayor Kim asked if Chris Scilingo also went as well as Frank DeCicco, who was in the process of retiring. Mayor Kim stated he came to the plate and also Natalia Kim.

Roberta Stern stated she was talking about Mike Lee.

Mayor Kim repeated and Mike Lee. Mayor Kim stated they were just amazing and really followed through. Mayor Kim mentioned of course, Charlie Chung and DPW did a great job. Mayor Kim thanked everyone and asked for a round of applause. Mayor Kim stated this was the type of proactiveness that they needed. They weren't there for the money, they were there to serve the community. Mayor Kim thanked everyone again and stated he would take any questions. Councilman Kwak stated he had something to say about Michael Gardner, the police director. Councilman Kwak stated he had a nice, brief conversation with him. Michael Gardner had started rolling out a wonderful program to help mitigate stopping scams online or over the phone. Councilman Kwak stated in this day and age, seniors and immigrants were targeted for these kinds of scams, and Michael Gardner had taken upon himself to really start creating these programs. Councilman Kwak stated he wanted to thank him for caring about the residents, creating programs, and constantly being active for the community.

Mayor Kim thanked him and stated he saw the report, which was very great. Mayor Kim stated he thought they could continue the tradition of the police officers visiting the senior facilities, people who were in suspect of getting conned. Mayor Kim stated they went on a yearly basis to the seniors, and they brought a Korean translator, as well as a Hispanic translator. Mayor Kim stated they also provided the program information.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Borough Attorney Allan Roth stated he had nothing to report.

BA REPORT

Borough Administrator Roberta Stern stated the only thing she wanted to say was that she was unbelievably impressed with the way this snow was handled as they had to do a lot of different things. Roberta Stern stated they had to cancel meetings, which was never easy because they all had a lot of work to do. There were people who came into work when they couldn't get out of their own homes. Roberta Stern stated what the DPW did, and what the Police Department did was just over the top and she couldn't be prouder. Roberta Stern stated also, she just wanted to let Councilman Kwak know that the Spray Park would probably be the best place for the dogs the last day of pool, so they didn't have to worry about any dogs drowning.

Councilman Kwak thanked Roberta Stern.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

POLICE REPORT

Chief George Beck stated they were off to a very busy start. As of that morning, they had three thousand eight-hundred eight incidents documented in their CAD system. Chief Beck stated this averaged out to sixty-seven incidences every twenty-four hours, which was higher than the previous year. Chief Beck stated some of that was through productivity, since motor vehicle stops were also included in that number as well as residents call for ambulances, arrests, everything. Chief Beck stated officers were working which was pretty impressive because it was a small unit of officers. Chief Beck stated officers were doing their job, they were serving, watching the town, and doing what they were supposed to do. Chief Beck stated they were protecting the residents. The Police Department recently partnered with the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office and their "Arrive Together Program". Chief Beck explained this was an excellent program where, every Wednesday, Dominic, a mental health professional worked from 11:00AM to 7:00PM. Chief Beck stated it was funded by the Prosecutor's Office at no cost to the Palisades Park Borough or the Police Department. Chief Beck stated when they had mental health issues that required police to respond, Dominic went along with them. Chief Beck stated he had already completed two Wednesday shifts. Two minutes into Dominic's first day, he responded out to somebody with a mental health crisis, and they were able to get the person into treatment. Chief Beck stated he had a couple calls the day prior as well. Chief Beck stated they were acknowledging that there was a need and the Prosecutor's Office brought it to them and asked them if they could do a one-to-one partnership which was innovative, and new. Chief Beck stated why not, if it could help somebody. Chief Beck stated if they did see an officer with a gentleman, his name was Dominic, on Wednesdays from 11:00AM to 7:00PM. Chief Beck explained Dominic was a mental health professional through the "Arrive Together Program", which was also partnered with Care Plus. Chief Beck stated for community outreach, on February 2nd, they also worked again with the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office to host an internet safety assembly for the high school students. Chief Beck stated he wanted to thank School Resource Officer Natalia Kim and Sergeant Mike Lee for their work on this worthy event. Chief Beck stated high schoolers needed to be reminded about internet safety, which was very important for them. Also on February 2nd, it was a very busy day, as they went to Notre Dame School where Detective Carley was honored to be a special guest at a special person's event along with Special Officer Alina Rodriguez. Chief Beck stated he wasn't going to say any names, but it was nice when, about two years ago, Detective Carly, Lieutenant Beck and others gave this boy's father CPR and saved him.

Mayor Kim stated that was amazing.

Chief Beck stated two years later that boy thought enough of Detective Carly to make him the special person, and he went there in a nice class A uniform and he looked great. Chief Beck stated he went with Captain Rotundo, and it was a wonderful event. On that same day, they went to Notre Dame School and met with the kindergarten classes. Chief Beck stated it was a beautiful time to spend some time with kindergarteners. Chief Beck stated they gave officers cards which they distributed to their officers, and they were very thankful for that. They wanted to prioritize their outreach with their public schools but also their private schools. Chief Beck stated they wanted to be an asset to the Notre Dame community. Additionally, on the 13th, Captain Rotundo took the team down to the Senior Citizens Center where they attended the Lunar New Year. Officers had a great time with the senior citizens. Chief Beck stated that Saturday they were sending six officers and himself to the "Ability Tree". Chief Beck stated they were hosting an event almost like that Tim Teebo event, "Night to Shine". Chief Beck stated this was a spin-off and disabled residents in the area were with a Nonprofit Organization Ability Tree. Chief Beck stated they were usually severely disabled, and officers were going to go there. Chief Beck stated six officers were going to be buddies, as well as himself. Chief Beck stated they were going to spend the night with them have dinner, dance, and play games. Chief Beck stated they designed this to take their three new officers to experience this kind of interaction with this community as well as with their field training officer. Chief Beck stated they had three weeks left of their field training, so they would be attending with their Field Training Officer. Chief Beck explained both the Field Training Officer and the trainee would also be buddies to one of the persons there. Chief Beck stated it was a good community event, and they would be in class A uniform. Chief Beck stated it was a good way to experience that and also foster some goodwill with the community and teach officers the importance of compassion, understanding, and kindness. Chief Beck stated they were hosting "Coffee with a Cop" at the Mochahut, at 125 Broad Avenue. Chief Beck stated it was going to be on March 19th, from 9:00AM to 11:00AM. Chief Beck stated they invited the community to come out and fellowship with the officers. Chief Beck stated they were looking to do "Coffee with a Cop" every other month that year, so that they could reach as many people as they possibly could. Chief Beck stated not everybody went to the same coffee place, but they knew lots of people drank coffee. Chief Beck stated they liked to go out to the community, engage, speak, discuss problems, see what they could do to help make Palisades Park a better community for everybody. Chief Beck stated if anyone wanted to call or email him (gbeck93@pppdnj.org) and suggest a coffee place, he would send the community policing team there to see if they could set up some kind of event there in order to spread it to multiple places in the community. Chief Beck stated it was going to be a fantastic thing that they were looking forward to doing this year. Chief Beck stated since they last met,

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

they made fifteen arrests. Seven of these were domestic violence related, which he would not discuss for privacy reasons. Others included drug arrests, aggravated assaults on one of the departments law enforcement officers, two thefts, a motor vehicle burglary, one fraud, and a trespassing. Chief Beck stated they were going to hear him mention a lot about Officer Sainte-Hillaire as he was very active. Chief Beck stated also Officer Mancilla and Officer Andy Kim, who was brand new and was going to complete a year that day. Chief Beck stated they arrested a thirty-eight-year-old Bronx man for attempting to piggyback on a targeted victim's bank account across the street. The bank called for a suspicious person, and they got over there. Chief Beck stated he thought he was able to flee, they took him in, they charged him with a whole bunch of fraud offenses, and it was a notable arrest. Detective Carly tracked down a thirty-year-old Uber Eats driver from New Milford, who on January 14th, helped himself to twelve hundred dollars from the cash register at a restaurant in Rodeo Plaza. Chief Beck stated this was a very good investigation, but it started with security footage, and then they tracked him to different places that he went to through his Uber account. Chief Beck stated with the subpoenas from Uber, and by February 11th, they were able to bring him in under arrest. On February 20th, Sergeant Michael Lee, Officers Steven Kim, William Duarte, Bob Lee, and Vincent Juliano responded to a suspicious person call. With the assistance of Detective Kunz, they identified a Palisades Park man who was suspected in stealing four-hundred twenty dollars' worth of lottery tickets.

Mayor Kim stated he heard they were scratch lotteries.

Chief Beck stated on February 21st, Detective Carly made another arrest. Chief Beck stated he was a standout and as a second-year detective he was really shining. Chief Beck stated he arrested a thirty-five-year-old from Ridgefield with a very long criminal history. Back on November 17th, a resident reported her vehicle was burglarized and her credit card was also stolen from the vehicle. Detective Carly began to track this person from the home security footage. After the person tried to make multiple attempts at purchases, he started tracking that footprint through all the cameras and through whatever other field work that he did. By doing this he was able to identify him and bring him under arrest. Chief Beck stated lastly, from their report on February 8th, there was a major fire on Broad Avenue. Chief Beck stated he was sure everyone was aware of it, but it was freezing out, and it was pretty bad. Chief Beck stated he thought the Fire Department did a very good job and he was very proud to see them there. Chief Beck stated he responded there as well as the Police Director Michael Gardner. Chief Beck stated they saw them working, and they did a tremendous job, as well as their police officers. Chief Beck stated they only sustained one injury where Officer James Park had injured his shoulder as he was trying to force open doors to alert residents to evacuate. Chief Beck stated if they saw the pictures, it was a tremendous fire and this had to be done very quickly. Chief Beck stated Officer Park would return to work on the 28th as the injury was minor. Chief Beck stated that was the kind of experience Palisades Park Police Officers were having there, serving and protecting the community. Chief Beck stated he was happy to answer any questions that anybody had. Chief Beck stated it was a good time to be a Palisades Park Police Officer.

Mayor Kim stated unbelievable.

Chief Beck thanked everyone.

Councilman Shin asked Chief Beck when they could open the part of the street that was barricaded due to the fire.

Chief Beck stated it was in the Building Department's hands. Chief Beck knew there were some discussions of whether or not that building was going to be demolished but it was out of the departments hands, as their function was to provide security of that area until they told them that it was no longer needed.

Mayor Kim stated Councilman Shin was there to help out the residents there. Mayor Kim stated he stopped by and it was a very good group effort - Roberta Stern interjected and stated she was on the phone with the Building Department. Mayor Kim continued and stated that the Red Cross was also there. Mayor Kim stated they made sure that residents were dispersed because of the property damage. They found themselves a temporary dwelling they could reside in with their families and friends, somewhat like a hotel. Mayor Kim stated they were very happy with our actions taken with the law and fire.

Chief Beck stated he would follow up with the construction official the next day.

Councilman Shin replied he did.

Chief Beck stated the director could report on that then. Chief Beck stated he followed up and he would get back to him. Chief Beck also thanked the council for approving Detective Sargeant Frank DeCicco's retirement. Chief Beck stated they were going to miss him as he spent twenty-five years working for the

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

borough. Chief Beck stated he was a tremendous detective, and tremendous asset to the Police Department. They wished him well on his retirement and thanked the council again for approving.

Mayor Kim stated he was a great officer.

Chief Beck asked if there were any more questions.

Director Gardner stated he followed up with the Building Department that day on that building and there were emails going back and forth. It appeared that it was going to be demolished but as far as the insurance company, they were going back and forth as to when this was actually going to take place. Director Gardner stated they would let them know so they could aid them in shutting down the roadways, so no one got hurt or anything like that. Director Gardner stated he would let them know once they heard back, but they said emails were going to go back. Director Gardner stated they should probably know within in a week or so. Director Gardner stated the mayor reached out to him and asked if they could put something out similar to the whistles. Director Gardner stated they had the whistleblower program for the seniors and if they were out and concerned about their safety, they provide them with whistles. The department expanded that program for people who were concerned about ICE. Director Gardner stated they put out another, he believed one hundred-eighty whistles to people who wanted them. If they were concerned about ICE, they had whistles to blow that would call attention to themselves and the area. The police officers in the area would come. Director Gardner stated to go off on that, he came up with a "how to stop scams". Director Gardner stated a lot of times people would get a phone call from someone offering an investment opportunity. These scammers would mention if they received a thousand dollars, they would triple their money in a week, so on and so forth. Director Gardner stated once people gave a thousand dollars they would never see the money again. Director Gardner stated they targeted senior citizens. Another scam with seniors that may have grandkids was that the scammers would say the grandkids were in jail and needed money for bail. These scammers would also say they couldn't talk to them until the money was sent. Director Gardner stated he put something together that they were going to send out, post online, and so on and so forth. Director Gardner stated he would give a copy of it.

Mayor Kim thanked him and asked if he could stop by the senior apartment and do a presentation with the police officers.

Director Gardner agreed to do so.

Mayor Kim thanked him.

Director Gardner stated this was the English version and the Mayor showed him a link on how he could make this into the Korean version. Director Gardner stated he would try to utilize it and would also have Officer Bob Lee translate the Korean for him as well. Director Gardner stated this was just another way for the police department to reach out to residents and suggest to use good judgement. Director Gardner stated suggested, if someone told you something was a great deal or it was too good to be true, it probably was. If someone was calling you and asking for your personal information, and you were scared about that they had to notify their bank and notify the Police Department. Director Gardner stated they didn't want anybody to be scammed and asked them to reach out to them. Director Gardner stated they were there for residents, and the chief was always there as well as the captain.

Mayor Kim thanked Director Gardner.

Director Gardner stated one last thing was that Special Officers and Traffic Officers were out using shovels. Director Gardner stated that was not their job, but he posted something hoping anybody saw it. Director Gardner stated they were out there helping DPW and were all one happy family. Director Gardner stated if DPW needed help these officers picked up the shovel and they helped. Director Gardner stated they shoveled out all the parking kiosks and so on. While they were doing that the month prior, they also wrote twenty-eight hundred fifty tickets. One traffic officer wrote three hundred and seventy-eight tickets. Another officer wrote three hundred fifty-eight tickets. Special Officer Santos, three hundred thirty tickets and Special Officer Rodriguez wrote three hundred nineteen tickets. Director Gardner stated one thing he wanted to point out was that once it wasn't snowing, residents had twelve hours to clean their side blocks. Given the amount of snow that came, Director Gardner stated he spoke to the Mayor and said there was too much snow, and nowhere to put it so they were relaxing on that. Director Gardner stated they had been allowing up to twenty-four hours. Special Officers and Traffic Officers were knocking on doors explaining they didn't want to distribute tickets and asked if sidewalks could be cleared as well as alternate side parking so DPW could clean the streets. If they had a car, they would run the plate, go to the door and knock, and give the resident notice. Director Gardner stated they did everything possible, so they didn't have to give residents tickets, but some people just didn't listen. Director Gardner stated they were trying their best to get the streets clean with DPW and not give

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

residents tickets, if at all possible. Director Gardner apologized if someone got a ticket, but they had to do what they had to do.

Mayor Kim thanked him.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked when Special Officers knocked on the door so that they could clean up the snow. Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked if they started when the snow ended or did they give residents some time.

Director Gardner stated there was an ordinance, but the number escaped him at that time. Director Gardner stated from the last snowstorm, they had twelve hours to clear their sidewalks.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon asked once it stopped?

Director Gardner confirmed once it stopped. Director Gardner stated what was weird was that they had some people that didn't shovel the last snowstorm. Then, all of a sudden, the day after, another inch fell. Director Gardner stated that restarted the clock and they would have to go back to the same houses that they put out notice before. Director Gardner stated he was told by the part-time code enforcement officer that he did put that notice, and he went back and checked. And a lot of people had in fact shoveled their sidewalks. Director Gardner stated he would rather give people a notice and give them an opportunity to do it instead of giving them a ticket.

Mayor Kim thanked him.

ENGINEER REPORT

Roberta Stern stated before Carl O'Brian started, generally speaking, the engineer came to the Work Session. Roberta Stern stated that was the appropriate one because they had time to do things. In this case, Carl O'Brian couldn't be at that meeting, so they invited him to this one. But generally speaking, the Work Session would be the meeting that the engineer came and gave his report.

Mayor Kim asked Carl O'Brian if that was common and if that was how he read it because the action really began in the Regular Meeting.

Carl O'Brian replied yes.

Mayor Kim stated that was when the majority of people were there.

Carl O'Brian replied right, typically, he would be present at the workshop meeting. Carl O'Brian stated he had conflicts with Planning Boards and other meetings elsewhere over the past couple of months, so there was an opportunity for him to speak before the Mayor and Council, according to their normal, Regular Meetings. Carl O'Brian stated he was attending this meeting to compensate for not attending the last Regular Meeting.

Mayor Kim stated in other words, Carl O'Brian would come to the Work Session and if there were council members who had questions, or, if he really had to come back, there would be an opportunity at the Regular Session.

Carl O'Brian replied correct. If there was a conflict with his schedule for other stuff, he would deal with the administrator to figure out which meeting worked best.

Mayor Kim stated that sounded good.

Carl O'Brian stated he worked with her very closely and they were just going to keep moving forward and help the borough move forward.

Mayor Kim thanked him and stated he did a good job with the Planning Board the last time.

Roberta Stern stated they were very lucky.

Carl O'Brian stated it was an interesting Planning Board.

Mayor Kim stated it ended at 10:30PM, so yes it was very interesting.

Carl O'Brian stated it was an early one.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim thanked him.

Carl O'Brian stated he prepared the engineer report dated February 19th. This was the basis of what they would be doing, and he would be updating this as we move forward with all of our projects. Carl O'Brian stated just touching basis on the Tier A items that used storm water, was due May 2nd. They started working on it already and were working closely with the DPW on that, putting together all the necessary paperwork to get it in, getting it to the governing body, and making sure they complied with the DEP. That's one of the big ones. Carl O'Brian stated for First, Second, Fourth, and Highland they were very eager to get a head started but the weather was not cooperating.

Roberta Stern stated at all.

Carl O'Brian stated they met with a contractor and had scheduled meetings. They were about to kick it off and then they just got hit with snow that past week.

Mayor Kim stated before that, residents suffered dearly for many, many years. One side of the road, where the pitch was, the water would come down, and they didn't even have one drain. Mayor Kim stated it just overflowed and flooded.

Carl O'Brian replied yes.

Mayor Kim stated they were creating a new sewer line over there.

Carl O'Brian replied they would be out there for the inspection with the contractor and they knew the contractor. Carl O'Brian stated they would coordinate with them and also with the Police Department. Carl O'Brian stated they were moving the cars, which was important to construction, so they were not on that side of the road. It was a safe working environment. Carl O'Brian stated the next one, on page two, was Broad Avenue. Carl O'Brian stated it was the boroughs fiscal year twenty-four project. DOT approved that for the borough to go out to bid.

Mayor Kim asked if it was for one point four million.

Roberta Stern stated it was for the fiscal year twenty-four. They had three sections on Broad Avenue. The twenty-fourth, that year—

Carl O'Brian replied Edsall to Washington.

Roberta Stern replied yes.

Mayor Kim repeated Edsall to Washington.

Roberta Stern confirmed that was correct.

Mayor Kim stated he remembered that one next to the church.

Roberta Stern replied right, which they received an extension on. Unfortunately, if they didn't get the information from Pennoni, even though they should've provided it - Colliers would go ahead and redo it. Roberta Stern stated obviously they wouldn't pay one of them.

Mayor Kim said to wait a minute.

Roberta Stern stated it was because they had provided the packet to the clerk to go out to bid.

Mayor Kim stated they would make a phone call.

Carl O'Brian replied he could call his counterpart over there, too.

Mayor Kim stated they had a friend there, which was good.

Carl O'Brian replied he wouldn't say friend.

Roberta Stern stated they had been trading emails and was not happy with what was going on.

Mayor Kim advised if it happened excessively to let him know.

Roberta Stern stated she would.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Carl O'Brian replied the goal was to get Pennoni to provide the information to the clerk and to put it out to bid. Once it went out to bid, they would take it over from there under construction.

Roberta Stern stated they already authorized the clerk to advertise for this one and they had been waiting for the documents from the engineer.

Carl O'Brian stated they recently received approval from the DOT so, wasn't like it had been sitting for months.

Roberta Stern replied no, but they were waiting for that.

Carl O'Brian replied it got approved from DOT over the holidays mid-January. So, they were in that time window where they were ready to go out to bid. Carl O'Brian stated all they had to do was award it by the deadline – Roberta Stern interjected and stated April. Carl O'Brian replied they had some time but didn't want it to go over.

Roberta Stern stated it was approaching.

Councilman Shin asked if this would be done in three sections.

Roberta Stern stated yes, it was three different grants.

Councilman Shin asked if all three grants were approved.

Roberta Stern stated they did two.

Carl O'Brian replied this one was done and was ready to go to construction.

Mayor Kim asked if it was Edsall.

Borough Administrator Roberta Stern: Edsall, Washington.

Carl O'Brian stated the next section was Broad Ave.

Roberta Stern asked if it was Oakdene then asked which one was Oakdene. Carl O'Brian replied no, it was the next one because they were in fiscal year twenty-five. Carl O'Brian stated that was Broad Avenue and he didn't have the limits on that one.

Roberta Stern stated she didn't bring it.

Carl O'Brian stated the borough was approved for almost two hundred thousand dollars which was the next section we put in for the design efforts to the borough administrator.

Roberta Stern stated that would be on the March agenda for approval. Carl O'Brian replied once that was approved, they were going to start the design on that. Carl O'Brian stated he anticipated spring design, summer construction which was typical.

Councilman Shin asked for the time frame for completion was.

Carl O'Brian replied if they had funding in place, they could get everything done what was on his list throughout the summer. Twelfth Street was another one that they put in for design. Carl O'Brian stated that was for fiscal year twenty-six which would catch up the borough with all their DOT work.

Mayor Kim asked which one was the one point four.

Roberta Stern stated that was the top of Grand outside and was also with the DOT at that time. There were two pieces that were missing that they had been trying to follow up with the CFO.

Mayor Kim stated they had a One point four-million-dollar grant. Mayor Kim stated that was no joke as they worked really hard. Mayor Kim stated Fifth Street going to Route 46, they would talk about. There was certain things that were very imminent.

Roberta Stern stated they were asking the construction company that was doing First, Second, Fourth, and Highland to see if they could give them a piece that wasn't that big. Roberta Stern stated plus, they were going to do the handicap sidewalks on Glen Avenue. Roberta Stern stated when they had a deal going and

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

they had a contractor and their prices were good - Mayor Kim interjected and stated they would keep on using them.

Roberta Stern stated they used them as they could when it worked. Carl O'Brian was working on that.

Carl O'Brian replied as long as they kept it within their allotted funding, they were okay.

Mayor Kim stated that little dirt road.

Roberta Stern stated that was Twelfth Street which they got a grant for that.

Carl O'Brian replied they got a grant for Twelfth Street. The ones that Roberta Stern was talking about, they were working with a contractor. Carl O'Brian stated they would also double-check with the CFO and Roberta Stern. Carl O'Brian stated they would make sure that they were okay with changing orders. At the end of the day, they would get a change order for everything, come back to the council, and get it finalized and approved so that it met everything.

Mayor Kim stated he wanted everybody to know that they had been record breaking the number of grants that they had been receiving. Mayor Kim thanked Roberta Stern and Millenium Strategies, the grant consultants.

Roberta Stern stated and Millenium Strategies.

Mayor Kim stated he thought it was three, to four times more grants that they had been receiving. This was good, because they were saving a lot of taxpayer's money.

Carl O'Brian replied just a couple more that they were going to have coming very soon. Carl O'Brian stated they had another one for Edsall Boulevard, that's an LTPF Grant which was through DOT. They had two CDEG Grants that would be coming online for design as well. Carl O'Brian stated one was for Commercial Avenue, the other one was for Bellview Place.

Mayor Kim stated they would need that for Commercial Avenue, and at the end it was residential.

Carl O'Brian stated he would have two others coming on for the inspection for the Bellview Parking lot.

Mayor Kim stated Bellview.

Carl O'Brian asked if there were three or four properties that they were going to be serving for.

Roberta Stern replied no.

Carl O'Brian replied they weren't doing any serving for that. Carl O'Brian stated he was going to catch up with Roberta Stern and the snow at the beginning of the week messed up their normal meet schedule. Carl O'Brian stated if that was still on great and if it was not on, then they wouldn't even see it.

Mayor Kim asked how Bellview Parking Lot at that point in time was.

Roberta Stern stated Tom O'Malley was right on top of it with Kevin Menaldo. They had everything where it had to be because they were doing the inspections and they were handling everything. Roberta Stern stated the first snow killed the weekend that they were supposed to do the work. They started working in between and then there was a snowstorm. Roberta Stern stated she guessed by the end of next month it would be in - Mayor Kim interjected and stated when spring came.

Mayor Kim stated they needed those.

Carl O'Brian thanked everyone. Carl O'Brian stated two last things. There were two Planning Board application, one had already been reviewed. As more stuff came in, they would continue to review and attend the meetings.

Mayor Kim thanked Carl O'Brian.

Mayor Kim requested a motion to close and open to the public. Mayor Kim stated he forgot and apologized to Michael Apicella. Mayor Kim stated Michael Apicella did a great job. Mayor Kim announced Michael Apicella was the boroughs Tax Collector.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Michael Apicella thanked everyone for recognizing him and stated he had some happy news to report some good news. Michael Apicella stated the rate of collection was propagated by the DAFS. Michael Apicella stated in twenty-eight years he had been in the tax office, it was the highest it had ever been since he had been there. In the history of Palisades Park, it was 99.06 percent in grudges.

Mayor Kim stated good job.

Michael Apicella stated it was a team effort at the tax office. On a second note, one of his staff members, Rebekah Kim, had successfully passed the Certified Tax Collector's exam in December of 2025. Usually on the first go around, there was a sixty-seven percent success-failure rate. All together they brought collections in, and it helped the borough. It helped also to keep budgeted items from uncollected taxes down which saved money there as well.

Mayor Kim stated it was Michael Apicella's leadership and congratulated him.

Roberta Stern thanked Michael Apicella.

Mayor Kim requested a motion to close and open to the public.

Councilman Donohue made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Kwak. All joined in favor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Kim reminded the public they had three minutes to talk about whatever their heart desired. Mayor Kim stated it seemed like that nice lady over there had been waiting.

Bo Kim stated her name and address.

Bo Kim stated "Good Evening, Council Members" in Korean, Spanish, and English. Bo Kim stated she was a resident of this community, a mother, an immigrant, and a naturalized citizen of the United States. Bo Kim came to this country in 2005 as an international student, believing in its promise. After arriving here, she survived domestic violence, fled to protect her two small children, and in doing so, fell out of legal status. Bo Kim stated she had no stability and could not move forward to continue her legal partition and her case was closed. Eventually, after rebuilding her life and re-marrying, she was able to restore her legal residence. During that time, it was law enforcement who intervened, rescued her children and herself, and ensured their safety in a moment of crisis. Bo Kim remained grateful for that protection. Bo Kim stated she sought protection under the Violence Against Women Act, known as VAWA. This law existed because the United States recognized that immigrant women and children could be especially vulnerable to abuse. When survivors were afraid to seek help, communities become less safe. Bo Kim stated not anymore which was why she could not remain silent. As someone who once fell out of legal status while escaping domestic violence, she understood how vulnerable that position could be. When someone was legally exposed, even if they had not committed a crime, they lived in constant fear. Innocent people could feel targeted simply because they lacked stability of documentation. Bo Kim continued, today, many residents said they were living in fear. Parents feared driving their children to school. Workers feared commuting to their jobs. Business owners feared losing employees over loans. This fear lived in the communities, churches, homes, residents, restaurants, and workplaces. Palisades Park was built by immigrants. Bo Kim stated they did not weaken this town, they built it. The town ran businesses, care for elderly, raised children, and invested in their future. Recently, while traveling to support community members in Quaker Town, Pennsylvania, a town only an hour and a half away from Palisades Park, she saw Confederate flags displayed alongside the route and surrounding areas. For many Americans, including herself, that symbol represented intimidation and exclusion. It sent a message about who belonged and who did not. Recent videos of immigration enforcement actions regardless of ongoing investigations had intensified fear and confusion. While immigration enforcement was federal jurisdiction, residents lived in communities not jurisdiction tracks. When fear spoke, people looked to local leaders for clarity, reassurance, and principal leadership. When rumors circulated around racial profiling or enforcement practices, fear grew even faster. If those concerns were unfounded, the community deserved clarity. If there were established procedures, they deserved transparency. Residents needed to understand what rule, if any, our local police department placed in February in immigration operations. Clear communication-built trust. Silence allowed fear to grow. Bo Kim recently spoke with a close family friend who was a veteran, businessman, father and lifelong US citizen. They watched the same video and felt completely different. This man believed enforcement was necessary and that many immigrants were criminals. Bo Kim stated she did not defend criminals as no community should. Bo Kim stated they must protect innocent families, women, and children. This divide in perception showed how urgently they needed calm leadership and clear communication. Public safety must never feel like intimidation. Security must never come at the cost of dignity. Law enforcement there was significant authority. With that authority came responsibility, ongoing training, professional standards, and

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

accountability which helped ensure that authority was exercised with restraint and respect for constitutional principles. Bo Kim respectfully urged the council to affirm the dignity of all residents and to foster all the communication that strengthened trust within our community. Bo Kim stated no badge outranked the Constitution. Fear divided communities. Trust strengthened depth. If one neighbor in Palisades Park lived in fear, none of them were truly safe.

Mayor Kim thanked her but stated she gave a speech.

Bo Kim apologized that it was too long.

Mayor Kim stated that was alright. They felt her pain. Mayor Kim stated they felt her worry. As a matter of fact, Josh Gottheimer came to the borough before trying to introduce a new law that would create a safety rail guard for educating ICE. ICE Officers graduated from their school in six weeks. The boroughs police officers took about six months, then another six months on the road with seniority to learn the ropes. Mayor Kim stated the borough also worked with multiple nonprofit organizations that came to the borough and created a ten-point system. Mayor Kim stated they introduced that to all the resists. Matter of fact, Councilman Kwak went there to give out the whistles and also educate on what to do and what not to do as well as what the business owners could do. What they were really afraid about was the business owners were very hurt financially. Not only that, but the people that worked in the kitchen provided the foundational worth of the labor force that America needed but they also the business. Mayor Kim stated they loved Korean food. So, it was like a lose-lose situation. Mayor Kim stated they were trying to continue to talk to the merchants, the restaurant owners and building owners. Mayor Kim stated they were going to have a community meeting as well. They also provided a hotline but didn't post that yet, because of the snow. Mayor Kim thanked them for reminding him and stated he would post that up. Mayor Kim stated it was a hotline. If anyone saw any ICE movement, they report to the borough. Mayor Kim and Michael Gardner would dispatch police officers. Mayor Kim wanted to make sure that Bo Kim knew they agreed with her, one hundred percent. However, there was a clear decision between federal immigration law and municipal local law. The borough provided services. The police were proactive about it voluntarily saying that they would record incidents to document properly so that no human rights were violated. Just in case, they were also going to start checking if there was abuse for the people that they were going to arrest. Mayor Kim stated that was when they could step in. Mayor Kim stated all this kind of information he would put it up online. Mayor Kim stated they could also talk to Councilman Kwak, who was very adamant about that. Mayor Kim stated they understood her and thanked her for the presentation.

Bo Kim stated she experienced otherwise with the police station. The police officer on the line told her ICE was a separate, federal— Mayor Kim interjected and asked when she called.

Bo Kim replied two days prior.

Mayor Kim asked, really?

Bo Kim stated she spoke to an operator. Bo Kim stated usually a police officer answered when she called the police - Mayor Kim interjected and stated he understood. Bo Kim stated the operator told her ICE was a separate police entity and he could not do anything about it.

Mayor Kim stated no, right now she was getting confused. The first call that Bo Kim received was not from them but from county dispatch.

Bo Kim stated she spoke to a police officer.

Mayor Kim asked what the officers name was.

Bo Kim began *<Indistinctly Speaking>*

Mayor Kim stated they would talk after the meeting. Mayor Kim asked for her phone number— Bo Kim interjected and stated she just wanted the residents to know that the police department was not going to help them. Bo Kim stated when she called *<indistinctly Speaking>*

Mayor Kim stated they were going to help residents and stated she was now making decisions into something else. Mayor Kim stated they were in the same direction, and he thought it was best they were not talking over each other. Mayor Kim stated he thought they should talk after this meeting.

Allan Roth stated they had a three-minute public comment.

Borough of Palisades Park
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
February 26, 2026

Mayor Kim stated they were taking a lot of time, and they respected her. Mayor Kim stated after that, they would have a conversation with the department.

Bo Kim stated she was pretty sure a lot of residents wanted to talk about this.

Mayor Kim stated her frustration should not be here because they were with her.

Neris Papoters stated she was really excited and really happy. Neris Papoters thanked everyone for training the police officers as she had been waiting for that and they were finally doing it. Neris Papoters stated in her experience when the police received a call for mental health the person was not a criminal. Neris Papoters stated one of her sons had experienced this. Neris Papoters stated they were human beings and they were first a person going through a crisis. Neris Papoters knew safety first, but a lot of the times, a family member of individuals who had gone through mental crisis, sometimes could not call. A lot of the time, they did not call. Neris Papoters stated they felt that if they called, then they were going to come and mistreat the family member and going to take them as a criminal. Neris Papoters stated they had been experiencing this in silence for many years. But they had been receiving very good treatment from the police department in town. Neris Papoters stated they came, they knew the family, and it was good. Neris Papoters stated a lot of the time, when they didn't know the family and they didn't know it was a mental crisis, they mistreated them and sometimes resulted in death. Neris Papoters used what happened in Fort Lee to a young woman who got shot by the police officer during a call for mental health. Neris Papoters stated when they gave a ticket to a family member going through a crisis, it was very painful. Neris Papoters stated it was very frustrating and that was the time when they decided not to go. Neris Papoters stated she was very happy and this was a very good for her to know that the police received the right training. It was important to her that the police knew to be safe but at the same time knew how to deal with a mental issue. A lot of the time, the person who was going through the crisis did not listen. Neris Papoters stated when police officers became stern and weren't educated it created more crisis, created more violence, and ended in a trial. Neris Papoters stated they wanted police officers to be safe, the person going through a crisis, and the family members so that they could call the police during a crisis. Neris Papoters stated she was very happy and this was good news for her as a mother that had been dealing with that silently. It was really hard and sometimes she just avoided calling and tried to handle it herself. Neris Papoters thanked them again and stated she really hoped they got on board with that.

Mayor Kim thanked her. Mayor Kim requested a motion to close the public participation session and return to the Regular Meeting.

Councilman Kwak made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. All joined in favor.

ADJOURN

Mayor Kim requested a motion to close the Regular Meeting and adjourn.

Councilman Kwak made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Donohue. All joined in favor.

Attest:



Sophia H. Jang, RMC

Borough Clerk