APRIL 7, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Runnemede was held on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. The following members were present at roll call: Mayor Kappatos; Council members: Passio, Kelly, Farrell, Cepero, Murray & White. Absent: None. Borough Solicitor, Daniel Long; Borough Engineer, Mark Basehore & CFO, Shelley Streahle.

STATEMENT: Mayor Kappatos read the notice of this meeting pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Passio, that the minutes of the 1/27/26, 2/3/26 & 2/24/26 meetings be approved as submitted by the Deputy Clerk. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos declared the minutes approved.

PROCLAMATIONS: Mayor Kappatos read the following proclamations:

Recognizing the Department of Public Works
The mayor thanked Public Works and Harry Wozunk and Nick Ritz for their work through the storms.

April is National Donate Life Month

FIRST READING:

Mayor Kappatos gave a brief explanation of the need to amend the trash ordinance. There was a brief discussion.

ORDINANCE 26-09: AMENDING CHAPTER 316 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RUNNEMEDE, ENTITLED "SOLID WASTE," SPECIFICALLY § 316-3, TO REGULATE THE DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL WASTE AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS AND TO UPDATE COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

A motion was made by White, seconded by Farrell, to adopt on first reading and advertise according to law with a public hearing to be held on the 5th day of May, 2026, at a meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos requested a roll call vote with the following results: Ayes: Passio, Kelly, Farrell, Cepero, Murray & White. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None. Mayor Kappatos declared the ordinance adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 26-63: Resolution Confirming 2026 Appointments

A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Passio, to adopt the resolution. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos requested a roll call vote with the following results: Ayes: Passio, Kelly, Farrell, Cepero, Murray & White. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None. Mayor Kappatos declared the resolution adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION: Councilman Murray provided updates on the Finance and Administration Departments, including the following: the Financial Disclosure Statement due date, the shared services agreement for a QPA with Barrington, storm statistics, and the 1st quarter cannabis tax.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilwoman Kelly gave various statistics for each department, including awards and grants.

PUBLIC EVENTS: Council President Passio reviewed the upcoming events scheduled for April and May. Mayor Kappatos mentioned the need for an agenda for the Youth Mayor and Council meeting.

ENGINEERING: Councilman Farrell said he would rely on his Caucus report.

PUBLIC WORKS & CONSTRUCTION: Councilman White said he would rely on his Caucus report and that the Construction Department was doing well.

PARKS & RECREATION: Councilman Cepero said he would rely on his Caucus report and mentioned the RYAA Opening Day parade and softball.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Long said his discussion would be held in Executive session.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Basehore said he would rely on his Caucus report. Mayor Kappatos mentioned the 2nd half of the application for Johnson Avenue is due. There was a discussion of funds and the processes for phases 1 and 2. Ms. Streahle gave a brief explanation of the process and the funding that is required for the projects.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: A motion was made by Passio, seconded by Cepero, that the list of bills as submitted by the treasurer be approved for payment along with the monthly contractual bills when they become due. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos requested a roll call vote with the following results: Ayes: Passio, Kelly, Farrell, Cepero, Murray & White. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None. Mayor Kappatos declared the bill list approved.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Laura Aceto & Lorraine Costello, Runnemede: Ms. Costello spoke about the issue with her neighbors' yard not being kept up. Animals are getting into the trash, and it is ending up on their lawn. Mayor Kappatos gave a brief explanation about the issue and what the code is per our town. Mayor Kappatos also mentioned that any future issues should be submitted through the portal so the Code Enforcer can address them.

Maria Panzarella, Runnemede: Ms. Panzarella announced that the final planning meeting for the Centennial will be held at the Senior Center to finalize the details.

Dawn Mutchler, Runnemede: Ms. Mutchler handed out flyers on the TNR program. She said there was concern regarding cat nuisance complaints. Mayor Kappatos asked why she was presenting the information and whether there was a situation he wasn't aware of. Ms. Mutchler stated that she disagrees with how complaints are handled. Mayor Kappatos questioned whether there is a need for more money for the TNR program. Mr. Long said he agrees with the TNR program, but there are rules in place that need to be followed. Ms. Mutchler stated [the Borough] might as well do away with [the TNR program] because eventually people won't want to trap in the town because of what could happen. Mayor Kappatos asked what could happen and when Runnemede had ever removed cats. Ms. Mutchler said it hasn't happened.

Sara Sharp, Mt. Ephraim: Ms. Sharp is part of the Community Cat Club and assists with the TNR program. She said she is concerned about cats being removed and what that will mean for the future, and wants the Ordinance changed regarding complaints. Mayor Kappatos suggested a meeting with the borough's Humane Officer to help resolve the issue.

Kevin Lancaster, Runnemede: Mr. Lancaster spoke about the TNR program being great.

Amy Ball, Runnemede: Ms. Ball mentioned that Dawn helped her with the TNR program and stray cats.

Carol Porch, Unknown: Ms. Porch spoke about Dawn helping her with the stray cats in her yard and said she would like to keep the TNR program.

Susan, Unknown: Susan wanted to mention that she had feral cats and that the TNR program works great.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, a motion was made by Farrell, seconded by White, to close the good and welfare portion of the meeting. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos declared that portion of the meeting closed.

Mayor Kappatos stated that the Council would go into a closed session and that no action would be taken upon return to public session.

RESOLUTION 26-64: Resolution Authorizing Mayor And Council Of The Borough Of Runnemede To Conduct A Closed Session To Discuss Personnel And Matters of Attorney-Client Privilege

A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Cepero, to adopt the resolution. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos requested a roll call vote with the following results: Ayes: Passio, Kelly, Farrell, Cepero, Murray & White. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None. Mayor Kappatos declared the resolution adopted.

Mayor & Council entered into closed session at 7:51 PM.
Ms. Passio left at 7:51 PM.

Mayor and Council returned to public session at 9:19 with a motion made by White, seconded by Murray.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, a motion was made by Cepero, seconded by White, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and Mayor Kappatos declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Approved by:

Nick Kappatos, Mayor

Attest:

Amanda Higareda, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Range of Checking Accts: First to Last Range of Check Dates: 04/01/26 to 12/31/26
Report Type: All Checks Report Format: Condensed Check Type: Computer: Y Manual: Y Dir Deposit: Y

Check # / PO #	Check Date	Vendor / Description	Amount Paid	Reconciled/Void	Ref Num / Contract
CLEARING		CLEARING ACCOUNT ALL FUNDS			
30397	04/07/26	PC8 PRO CAP 8 FBO FIRST TRUST BANK			6462
26-00419		LIEN REDEEM, 25-00129, 160/2	1,798.73		
30398	04/07/26	PC8 PRO CAP 8 FBO FIRST TRUST BANK			6463
26-00417		LIEN REDEEM, 89/12, 25-00064	2,661.84		
30399	04/07/26	PC8 PRO CAP 8 FBO FIRST TRUST BANK			6464
26-00416		LIEN REDEEM, 15/2.01, 25-00008	1,585.66		
30400	04/07/26	PC8 PRO CAP 8 FBO FIRST TRUST BANK			6465
26-00415		LIEN REDEEM, 10/2, 25-00004	2,489.39		
30401	04/07/26	AIRGASEA AIRGAS USA LLC			6466
26-00332		Oxygen Regulator	135.00		
30402	04/07/26	BACHASSO BACH ASSOCIATES PC			6466
25-00581		JOHNSON AVE NJDOT2025 RB2025-1	0.00		
30403	04/07/26	BOROU057 BOROUGH OF BARRINGTON			6466
26-00110		EMS SSA 2026	14,038.00		
30404	04/07/26	BOYSCOUT BOY SCOUT TROOP 117			6466
26-00447		COMMUNITY CLEAN UP	500.00		
30405	04/07/26	CHARLIES CHARLIES COMPLETE AUTO SERVICE			6466
26-00287		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 19	79.88		
26-00305		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 01	100.00		
26-00306		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 02	100.00		
26-00308		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 04	100.00		
26-00309		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 06	100.00		
26-00311		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 08	100.00		
26-00350		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CAR 19	2,883.74		
26-00394		VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	2,748.54		
			6,212.16		
30406	04/07/26	FIG FIG CUST FIGNJ19LLC & SEC PTY			6466
26-00420		LIEN REDEEM, 25-00097,120/15	27,483.65		
30407	04/07/26	NJDEPHEA NJ DEPT OF HEALTH & SR SVC			6466
26-00435		MARCH DOG LICENSE	375.00		
30408	04/07/26	RETRO01 THE RETROSPECT INC			6466
26-00433		LEGAL NOTICE	400.00		
30409	04/07/26	RTLF RAM TAX LIEN FUND II LP			6466
26-00418		LIEN REDEEM, 115/1, 25-00091	857.34		
30410	04/07/26	RUNNEM25 RUNNEMEDE FIRE COMPANY #1			6466
26-00439		VOLUNTEER FF INCENTIVE 1ST QTR	5,375.00		

Check # Check Date Vendor PO # Description	Amount Paid	Reconciled/Void Ref Num Contract
CLEARING CLEARING ACCOUNT ALL FUNDS Continued		
30411 04/07/26 RUNNEM75 RUNNEMEDE YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOC		6466
26-00448 COMMUNITY CLEAN UP 4/4/26	500.00	
30412 04/07/26 TREASCHF TREASURER-STATE OF NEW JERSEY		6466
26-00440 1ST QTR 2026 MARRIAGE REPORT	275.00	
30413 04/07/26 TREASDCA TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY		6466
26-00434 1ST QUARTER 2026 DCA FEES	3,353.00	
30414 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00009 CONSTRUCTION OFF COPIER LEASE	115.00	
30415 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00008 COURT OFFICE COPIER LEASE	59.00	
30416 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00010 BH FRONT OFFICE COPIER LEASE	169.00	
30417 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00012 POLICE CLERK COPIER LEASE	149.00	
30418 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00013 BH MIDDLE OFFICE COPIER LEASE	171.00	
30419 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00014 PUBLIC WORKS COPIER LEASE	131.00	
30420 04/07/26 USBAN005 US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		6466
26-00015 PD PATROL OFFICE COPIER LEASE	125.00	

Checking Account Totals	Paid	Void	Amount Paid	Amount Void
Checks:	24	0	68,958.77	0.00
Direct Deposit:	0	0	0.00	0.00
Total:	24	0	68,958.77	0.00

Report Totals	Paid	Void	Amount Paid	Amount Void
Checks:	24	0	68,958.77	0.00
Direct Deposit:	0	0	0.00	0.00
Total:	24	0	68,958.77	0.00

Totals by Year-Fund Fund Description	Fund	Budget Total	Revenue Total	G/L Total	Total
GENERAL FUND	5-01	13,470.00-	0.00	0.00	13,470.00-
GENERAL FUND	6-01	27,239.16	0.00	0.00	27,239.16
FEDERAL STATE GRANT FUND	G-02	14,470.00	0.00	0.00	14,470.00
DOG TRUST FUND	T-03	375.00	0.00	0.00	375.00
TTL REDEMPTION FUND	T-19	36,876.61	0.00	0.00	36,876.61
UCC TRUST FUND	T-22	3,468.00	0.00	0.00	3,468.00
Year Total:		40,719.61	0.00	0.00	40,719.61
Total Of All Funds:		68,958.77	0.00	0.00	68,958.77