

Last revision took place on: 3/4/2026 3:17 PM

Any and all substantive documents are on file with the Borough Clerk

1936th REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2026 – YOUTH GOVERNMENT NIGHT

CALL TO ORDER:

I hereby call the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at _____ pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Will everyone please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo / Analise Marchitelli
Council President:	Philip Romero / Kameron Crews
Councilperson:	Ezio Altamura / Isabella Drotos
Councilperson	Dominick Azzolini / Dominick Buonomo
Councilperson	Michele Mabel / Ella Scarvaglione
Councilperson	Michael Donato / Christopher Rios
Councilperson	Richard Wall / Jake Wall
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire / Peter LaRosa
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso / Fiona Helly
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert / Chase LoPresti

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

This meeting is being held in accordance with Public Law 1975 Chapter 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the “Sunshine Law”. The public meeting notice stating the date, time and place of this meeting was posted on the town bulletin board and the town website and was forwarded to the Record and TAPinto.

CEREMONIAL PRESENTATION:

None

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING:

None

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE:

None

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING:

None

PETITIONS:

None

BIDS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications and correspondence received are identified on this evening's agenda has been distributed to all Council for appropriate action.

REPORTS OF GOVERNING BODY:

Mayor Analise Marchitelli
Council Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair – Councilperson Jake Wall
Council Finance, Insurance & Administration Committee Chair – Councilperson Christopher Rios
Council Fire & Emergency Management Committee Chair – Councilperson Kameron Crews
Council Public Information & Events Committee Chair – Councilperson Ella Scarvaglione
Council Police & Public Safety Committee Chair - Councilperson Isabella Drotos
Council Public Works, Sanitation, Recycling & Utilities Committee Chair – Councilperson Dominick Buonomo

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Borough Administrator: Chase LoPresti
Borough Attorney: Peter LaRosa
Borough Auditor: Owen Dodds
Borough Clerk: Fiona Helly
Borough Planner: Christopher Schweizer
Borough Engineer: Nicholas Scalera

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS:

Chief Financial Officer	Julianne Boccassini
Construction Code Official	Connor Dunn
Construction Office Technical Assistant	Vincent Russo
Emergency Management Coordinator	Aliyanna LaForte
Fire Chief	Brandon DiMascio
Fire Prevention Official	Grace Ottevaere
Health Officer	Sean Stasion
Library Director	Anthony Drotos
Planning Board Chair	Marcus Nesci
Police Chief	Anthony Onnembo
Property Maintenance Official	Mardaux Castillo
Public Works Superintendent	Simona Guerriero
Purchasing Agent	Samantha Raymond
Recreation Director	Mahi Patel
Registrar of Vital Statistics	Chloe Perez
Safety Coordinator	Lia Russo
Tax Assessor	Maximillian Rodzen
Tax Collector	Mateusz Brzeski
Zoning Officer	Dylan Banks

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Marchitelli declares the Hearing of Citizens to be open.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

1. **MINUTES:**

Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Meeting.

2. **RESOLUTIONS:**

060-2026 Supporting RevolutionNJ.

3. **APPLICATIONS:**

- a. Ridgefield Memorial High School PTA for a Casino Night on March 19, 2026 at the Fiesta
- b. Alfred M. Fiume Foundation for an On-Premise 50/50 and Tricky Tray on April 10, 2026 at the Fiesta.

All applications listed above have been approved by the Wood-Ridge Police Department.

4. **APPOINTMENTS:**

None

5. **HIRINGS:**

None

Motion: Councilperson _____, seconded by _____ moved to the adoption of all matters on the above
CONSENT AGENDA.

Youth Roll Call: Crews, Drotos, Buonomo, Scarvaglione, Rios, Wall

Council Roll Call: Romero, Altamura, Azzolini, Mabel, Donato, Wall

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Marchitelli declares the Hearing of Citizens to be open.

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson _____, seconded by Councilperson _____, moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on March 4, 2026 was duly adjourned at _____ p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2026 – Youth Government Night

Mayor Sarlo welcomed everyone here this evening. For those of you who do not know what tonight is about, this is a long-standing tradition that he had taken part of when he was in high school where the seniors take part in government and run a council meeting. He now turned it over to Mayor Analise Marchitelli.

CALL TO ORDER: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

Mayor Analise Marchitelli called the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was led by Mayor Marchitelli

Mayor Marchitelli asked everyone please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance

STUDENT ROLL CALL: was read by Borough Clerk Fiona Helly

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo / Analise Marchitelli – present
Council President:	Philip Romero / Kameron Crews – present
Councilperson:	Ezio Altamura / Isabella Drotos – present
Councilperson	Dominick Azzolini / Dominick Buonomo – present
Councilperson	Michele Mabel / Ella Scarvaglione – present
Councilperson	Michael Donato / Christopher Rios – present
Councilperson	Richard Wall / Jake Wall – present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire / Peter LaRosa – present
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso / Fiona Helly – present
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert / Chase LoPresti – present

COUNCIL ROLL CALL: was read by Administrator Eilert

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo – present
Council President:	Philip Romero – present
Council:	Ezio Altamura – present
	Dominick Azzolini – present
	Michele Mabel – present
	Michael Donato – present
	Richard Wall – present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire – excused
Borough Engineer:	Brian Intindola – excused
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso – present
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert – present

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: was read by Administrator LoPresti

This meeting is being held in accordance with Public Law 1975 Chapter 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the “Sunshine Law”. The public meeting notice stating the date, time and place of this meeting was posted on the town bulletin board and the town website and was forwarded to the Record and TAPinto.

CEREMONIAL PRESENTATION: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

PETITIONS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

BIDS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

None

COMMUNICATIONS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

Communications and correspondence received are identified on this evening's agenda has been distributed to all Council for appropriate action.

REPORTS OF GOVERNING BODY:

Mayor Analise Marchitelli

I am very proud to be hosting Youth Government Night for the members of the Class of 2026. Approximately 800 students have participated in this program over the 27 Years that I have served as Mayor of Wood-Ridge.

This is an important civic program that helps our High School Seniors learn about how local government operates. I want to congratulate all our Seniors who are here tonight. Please give them a round of applauds!

I also want to congratulate all the parents who are here to support our students.

I ask all the students to please give your parents a round of applauds!

Lastly, I want to thank our school officials and faculty for the work they do every day to educate our students and I want to thank Borough Clerk Gina Affuso and her staff for planning and organizing this event.

Council Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair – Councilperson Jake Wall

I am Chairperson of the Borough Council Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee has oversight over all Borough buildings, grounds, parks, playgrounds, athletic facilities, open space and right-of-ways.

We have received millions of dollars in grants to renovate parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and public buildings.

In recent years, all of our athletic fields and playgrounds have been fully renovated.

We have also built many brand-new facilities such as the Marshall Lane Playground, Kennedy Lane Playground, Kennedy Lane Dog Run, the Wood-Ridge Athletic Complex, and Wood-Ridge Square Park.

Council Finance, Insurance & Administration Committee Chair – Councilperson Christopher Rios

I am Chairperson of the Borough Council Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee has oversight over all financial, budget, and administrative matters of the Borough. The Finance Committee works with the Borough Administrator to prepare the annual budget. Last year, the Mayor and Council produced a budget without any local tax increase for the 3rd year in a row.

The Borough is in excellent financial shape with a AA Bond Rating and a very strong balance sheet with relatively low debt. Major cost savings have come from entering into shared services agreements with the Board of Education and other towns.

Council Fire & Emergency Management Committee Chair – Councilperson Kameron Crews

I am Chairperson of the Borough Council Fire Committee.

The Fire Committee has oversight of the Wood-Ridge Fire Department, the Fire Prevention Bureau, and the Office of Emergency Management.

The Fire Department is comprised of highly trained volunteers who answer the calls of their fellow Wood-Ridge residents. Their service saves the Borough taxpayers literally millions of dollars each year. The Fire Department has 1 ladder truck, 3 engines, and 1 rescue truck.

Council Public Information & Events Committee Chair – Councilperson Ella Scarvaglione

I am Chairperson of the Borough Council Public Information and Events Committee.

The Public Information and Events Committee has oversight over the Borough's website and social media and coordinates the scheduling of different programs and events throughout the Borough.

The Committee also has oversight over all the town's public events and the sub-committees that plan and conduct them.

Our public events include the Memorial Day Service, the Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful Clean-Up Day, the Town Day Street Festival, the 9-11 Service, the Senior Citizens Halloween Party, the Rag-a-Muffin Halloween Parade, Trunk-or-Treat, the Veterans Day Service, the Senior Citizens Christmas Party, the Christmas Tree Lighting, and the Christmas Toy Drive.

Council Police & Public Safety Committee Chair - Councilperson Isabella Drotos

I am the Chairperson of the Borough Council Police Committee. The Police Committee has jurisdiction over the Police Department, drug and alcohol abuse education programs, the Municipal Court, and the Violations Bureau.

Before becoming a Police Officer, recruits must attend and graduate from the Bergen County Police Academy. At the Academy, recruits are trained and tested in subject areas such as physical fitness, use of weapons, criminal law, psychology, community relations, and patrol and investigative tactics.

The Borough of Wood-Ridge has a shared service agreement to locate our Municipal Court and Violations Bureau in the City of Garfield. Under this arrangement, we still appoint our own Municipal Court Judge, Prosecutor and Public Defender and keep all court fines and fees generated by Wood-Ridge.

Council Public Works, Sanitation, Recycling & Utilities Committee Chair – Councilperson Dominick Buonomo

I am Chairperson of the Borough Council Public Works Committee.

The Public Works Committee has oversight over the Department of Public Works and the Borough's sanitary sewer system, streets, sidewalks, and municipal parking lots. It also has jurisdiction over all contracts for garbage and recycling collection and all matters concerning public utility services such as natural gas, electric, street lighting, water, telephone, cable television and internet provided by third party vendors.

During the winter months, DPW responds to snow storms and does interior cleaning, painting and repairs in borough buildings. In early Spring, the DPW will begin the spring clean ups of all Borough parks and playgrounds. Throughout the spring and summer months, they will clean all storm sewer catch basins and all sanitary sewer lines. During the summer and fall months, the DPW will prune and elevate shade trees and will replace all damaged and faded street and traffic signs throughout the Borough

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Borough Administrator: Chase LoPresti

The Borough Administrator is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Borough of Wood-Ridge. The Administrator reports to the Mayor and all department heads report to the Administrator.

The Borough administrative staff provides valuable services to our residents and perform state mandated tasks in the areas such as Finance, Tax, Purchasing, Recreation, Health & Vital Statistics, Construction & Code Enforcement and the Municipal Court.

All administrative staff members have been cross-trained in multiple departments and duties. By improving efficiency, utilizing technology and participating in shared services and joint purchasing programs we have been able to implement significant cost savings over the years.

Borough Attorney: Peter LaRosa

The Borough Attorney must be a lawyer admitted to practice in the State of New Jersey. The Borough Attorney should have knowledge and experience in municipal law relating to public meetings, public records, fiscal affairs, bonding, insurance, employment, and land use.

The Borough Attorney is responsible for providing legal advice to the Mayor and Council and other Borough Officials. The Borough Attorney prepares all contracts and ordinances that the Mayor and Council adopt and also works with the Borough's insurance carrier to defend any lawsuits filed against the town.

Borough Auditor: Owen Dodds

The Borough Auditor is responsible for conducting the annual audit of the financial operations of the town, which is mandated by state law.

The audit reviews the financial and managerial practices of Borough employees to ensure compliance with state laws and regulations. Areas that the audit reviews include accounting policies and procedures, purchasing policies and procedures, contract administration, cash management practices, payroll procedures, records management and fixed asset inventory.

The Auditor assists the Borough Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer in preparing the annual budget and the annual financial statements. To be a municipal auditor in New Jersey, you must be an accountant who holds the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license and the Registered Municipal Accountant (RMA) license.

Borough Clerk: Fiona Helly

The Borough Clerk has many responsibilities that are mandated by state law.

The Borough Clerk serves as the Secretary to the Mayor and Council, the Secretary of the Municipal Corporation, the Custodian of all Borough Records, the Elections Official for local elected offices, and issues Borough permits and licenses, including liquor licenses.

To be certified as a Borough Clerk, a person must pass a series of courses at Rutgers University and pass the State Registered Municipal Clerk Exam.

Borough Planner: Christopher Schweizer

The Borough Planner must be a Licensed Professional Planner in the State of New Jersey.

The Planner prepares the town's Master Plan which establishes the permitted land use patterns and development standards for all property within the town.

The Planner also reviews all applications submitted to the Planning Board to make sure they comply with all land use and zoning regulations.

Borough Engineer: Nicholas Scalera

The Borough Engineer is responsible for designing plans and bid specifications for capital purchases such as fire trucks and dump trucks and for infrastructure projects such as road paving, drainage improvements, building renovations, and upgrades to parks, playgrounds and athletic fields.

The Borough Engineer also prepares and submits grant applications to the state and county on behalf of the Borough. We also inspect all public construction projects and review all applications submitted to the Planning Board.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS:

Chief Financial Officer Julianne Boccassini

To be a Chief Financial Officer you must have a bachelor's degree in accounting or business administration, attend and pass municipal finance courses at Rutgers University, and must pass the NJ Certified Municipal Finance Officer exam.

The CFO must work with other town officials to perform their duties. The CFO works with the Borough Administrator to develop and administer the municipal budget. The CFO works with the Borough Auditor to prepare the annual financial statements. CFO works with the Bond Counsel to issue bonds which fund capital projects such as road paving and building renovations.

Construction Code Official Connor Dunn

Construction Office Technical Assistant Vincent Russo

The Technical Assistant manages all administrative matters in the Construction Code Office related to issuing permits, scheduling inspections, processing complaints, levying fines, and collecting fees.

The Technical Assistant works closely with the Construction Code Official and the Sub-Code Inspectors to schedule inspections and follow up on complaints. The Technical Assistant also helps local residents and contractors with any questions and is also responsible for preparing monthly and yearly reports that are submitted to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Emergency Management Coordinator Aliyanna LaForte

The Emergency Management Coordinator is required to direct emergency response during a public emergency officially declared by the Mayor or the Governor. Examples of state declared public emergencies are hurricanes, blizzards, and floods. Locally declared public emergencies include fires, downed utility wires, and collapses roads or sewers.

Emergency Management Coordinators are appointed by the Mayor and are part of a statewide emergency management network that is headed by the Superintendent of the State Police.

Fire Chief Brandon DiMascio

The Wood-Ridge Fire Department is an all-volunteer group of approximately 50 men and women who provide fire protection to our residents and their property. The Department also assists neighboring towns through mutual aid agreements.

All fire fighters undergo training at the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy.

We respond to approximately 350 calls per year, ranging from fire alarms, downed utility wires, vehicle accidents, and structural fires. Additionally, the members of the department spend many hours each month performing cleaning, maintenance, and training to ensure that we are ready to respond to emergencies.

Fire Prevention Official Grace Ottevaere

Health Officer Sean Stasion

The Health Officer is the head of the Bureau of Public Health which is part of the Board of Health. The Bureau of Public Health is responsible for pest and animal control, infectious disease control, and performing sanitary inspections and issuing licenses to all businesses and public facilities that handle or prepare food.

The Health Officer is assisted by health inspectors, public health nurses, and animal control officers. Like many small towns, Wood-Ridge utilizes a shared services agreement with the Bergen County Health Department to provide these personnel.

Library Director Anthony Drotos

The Wood-Ridge Memorial Library offers many services to residents beyond the traditional services of circulating books and housing reference materials. The Library also has collections of movies and periodicals and offers access to research databases and passes to museums. The Library offers classes to assist those searching for a job or learning English as a second language. The Library also hosts educational programs for children and families and cultural programs for all residents.

Planning Board Chair Marcus Nesci

The Planning Board is responsible for developing and enforcing the Borough's Master Plan and Zoning Code, both of which regulate land use throughout the town. The Board conducts public hearings and renders decisions on all land use applications related to sub-divisions, site plans, and variances from the Borough's Zoning Code. The most frequent types of applications we receive are for subdivisions of larger properties into separate building lots, variances for decks and fences on residential properties and certificates of occupancy for new businesses.

Police Chief Anthony Onnembo

As Police Chief, I am responsible for managing the Wood-Ridge Police Department and all of its personnel which include sworn police officers, class 3 special officers, communications dispatchers, crossing guards, and administrative clerks. The Department is organized into 4 Bureaus which are Patrol, Detective, Administration, and Internal Affairs.

I am very proud that our department is accredited by the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police, which means that the Wood-Ridge Police Department ranks as being among the top 25% of departments in the state. Each year, our officers undergo hundreds of hours of advanced academic and professional training.

The Department strives to be engaged and involved with residents in our community which is a major reason why our community has a low crime rate and is considered a safe place to live.

Property Maintenance Official Mardaux Castillo

The Property Maintenance Official is responsible for enforcing the property Maintenance Ordinance of the Borough. The Property Maintenance Ordinance includes laws that govern the appearance, condition and upkeep of all private property.

Common examples of property maintenance enforcement issues include:

- Uncut lawns and grass or overgrown trees, shrubs, or vegetation
- Keeping unregistered or broken-down vehicles in driveways
- Storing boats, trailers, or construction equipment in yards
- Fences and walls that are falling over or in disrepair
- Parking lots that have excessive litter or broken pavement
- Feeding birds and wild or stray animals

Public Works Superintendent Simona Guerriero

The employees of the Department of Public Works DPW are organized into 4 different divisions: Operations, Buildings, Shade Tree, and Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance.

The DPW performs a multitude of tasks including snow plowing, filling potholes, painting curbs, replacing street signs and pruning trees. They are responsible for the maintenance and repair of all public buildings and grounds including landscaping, painting and cleaning. They also maintain the Borough's storm and sanitary sewer systems by cleaning catch basins, servicing the pump stations and jetting sewer lines. Perhaps their most important function is responding to emergencies such as hurricanes, blizzards and sewer back-ups.

Purchasing Agent Samantha Raymond

The Purchasing Agent is responsible for drafting policies regulating the purchasing of goods and services for all Borough Departments and for supervising all public bids and capital purchases.

To be a Qualified Purchasing Agent you must pass 4 courses at Rutgers and pass the state exam. Under New Jersey Law, a Qualified Purchasing Agent is authorized to enter into purchase agreements for goods and services that either cost less than the public bid threshold or are covered under a state contract.

Registrar of Vital Statistics Chloe Perez

The Registrar is the head of the Bureau of Vital Statistics which is part of the Board of Health. The Bureau of Vital Statistics is responsible for issuing marriage licenses, death certificates, birth certificates, burial permits and dog and cat licenses.

The Registrar is assisted by a Deputy Registrar and Alternate Deputy Registrars. These positions are filled by staff from the Borough Clerk's office. Registrars must be certified by the New Jersey Department of Health.

Safety Coordinator Lia Russo

The Safety Coordinator schedules and supervises safety training for all Borough employees. The Safety Coordinator also conducts safety inspections of all Borough facilities, including parks and playgrounds, and files reports with the South Bergen Joint Insurance Fund to make sure the Borough is compliant with all safety, training, and insurance requirements.

Tax Assessor Maximillian Rodzen

The Tax Assessor is one of the four statutory positions which a municipality must have under state law. Tax Assessors are licensed by the New Jersey Division of Taxation. To be licensed as a Tax Assessor, you must have a bachelor's degree, must attend and pass 5 courses at Rutgers University and must pass the NJ Certified Tax Assessor's exam.

Prior to 1979, Tax Assessors were elected by the town's voters. Today, Tax Assessors are appointed by the town's Mayor and Council but report to the County Board of Taxation.

By statute, Tax Assessors are responsible for identifying all real property within a municipality, creating and maintaining accurate property record cards for all properties, and establishing a fair assessment for all property based on market value.

Tax Collector Mateusz Brzeski

The Tax Collector is responsible for billing and collecting real estate taxes on behalf of the School District, the Library, the County, and the Town. Property taxes are paid on a quarterly basis to fund our local public schools, the library, county government operations such as health and human services and county road maintenance, and local government operations such as garbage collection and police and fire protection.

To be a Certified Tax Collector you must attend and pass required courses at Rutgers University and pass a state exam.

Zoning Officer Dylan Banks

The Zoning Officer is responsible for enforcing the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough. The Zoning Ordinance includes laws that govern the use of all private property based on different zoning districts throughout the town. The ordinance regulates the size, occupancy, set-backs, and parking requirements for all buildings as well as the parking, signage and hours of operation for all businesses. It also regulates accessory structures on properties such as garages, sheds, pools, decks, and fences as well as limits what can be stored on private properties.

All new businesses and all new construction must apply to the Zoning Officer for a zoning certificate. If the Zoning Officer rejects an application, the decision can be appealed to the Planning Board for a public hearing.

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Marchitelli declared the Hearing of Citizens to be open.

Bart LoPresti of 148 9th Street stated the Wood-Ridge DPW is second to none. Mr. LoPresti expressed his gratitude for the tremendous work the DPW has done with all the storms this year.

If no one else wishes to speak, I close the Second Hearing of Citizens

CONSENT AGENDA: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

MINUTES: was read by Administrator LoPresti

Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS: was read by Administrator LoPresti

**RESOLUTION NO.: 060-2026
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE SUPPORTING RevolutionNJ**

WHEREAS, Governor Philip Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature created RevolutionNJ in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, New Jersey's pivotal role in the American Revolution, and the contributions of its diverse peoples to the nation's past, present, and future; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Historical Commission, under the leadership of Secretary of State Tahesha Way, with its non-profit partner Crossroads of the American Revolution established RevolutionNJ to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism, and scholarship in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will engage New Jerseyans in all 21 counties and 564 municipalities through its officially recognized programs, initiatives, and events over the next ten years; and

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2026 – Youth Government Night

WHEREAS, it is fitting and desirable that we commemorate the beginning of the Nation and the role New Jersey played over the past 250 years as well as its present and future role as part of the United States, with particular focus on the individuals, ideas, and events shaped our Country, State and Borough; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will consider the role New Jersey played during the American Revolution when it saw more battles and skirmishes than any other state and was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will highlight the role New Jerseyans played beyond the battlefield during the American Revolution when people of diverse backgrounds contributed to the development of the State and the Nation in various ways and fought for the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, preserving studying, and enjoying state history strengthens communities and builds bonds between New Jersey residents as we work together toward the goals of justice and equality embedded in the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Wood-Ridge hereby endorses RevolutionNJ and its mission to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism and scholarship in New Jersey.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that:

1. The Borough of Wood-Ridge commemorates the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the United States as an independent Nation.
2. The Borough of Wood-Ridge authorizes the appointment of a committee to develop a plan for this commemoration that will promote the maximum involvement of our residents, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, civic organizations, and institutions in the commemorations.
3. The Borough of Wood-Ridge further urges all its residents to reflect upon the significance of this event and the role that our State and its diverse people have played in the history and development of our Nation and to participate in this important commemoration, endeavoring to include the stories of all those whose lives are part of the history of what we now know as New Jersey, and understanding that the revolution continues today as we uphold the revolutionary ideals articulated in our founding documents.

APPLICATIONS: was read by Administrator LoPresti

- a. Ridgefield Memorial High School PTA for a Casino Night on March 19, 2026 at the Fiesta
- b. Alfred M. Fiume Foundation for an On-Premise 50/50 and Tricky Tray on April 10, 2026 at the Fiesta.

All applications listed above have been approved by the Wood-Ridge Police Department.

APPOINTMENTS: was read by Administrator LoPresti

None

HIRINGS: was read by Administrator LoPresti

None

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2026 – Youth Government Night

Mayor Marchitelli asked for a motion on the consent agenda

Motion: Councilperson Drotos, seconded by Buonomo moved to the adoption of all matters on the above **CONSENT AGENDA.**

Youth Roll Call: Crews yes, Drotos yes, Buonomo yes, Scarvaglionone yes, Rios yes, Wall yes

Administrator Eilert explained that Resolution 060-2026 RevolutionNJ is for us to participate in the Country's 250th anniversary. Administrator Eilert asked for a motion on the consent agenda

Motion: Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Azzolini moved to the adoption of all matters on the above **CONSENT AGENDA.**

Council Roll Call: Romero yes, Altamura yes, Azzolini yes, Mabel yes, Donato yes, Wall yes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

There is no unfinished business that needs to come before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

There is no new business that needs to come before the Council.

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

Mayor Marchitelli called for the Second Hearing of Citizens to be open. If anyone would like to speak, please stand and state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Marchitelli recognized Superintendent Tony Albro who was present this evening.

Superintendent Albro acknowledged Mr. Sinclair being here tonight. He expressed Principal Ruiz regrets for not being here but her son has been very ill and she could not attend. Mr. Albro stated that he is amazed at how organized out town is. He echoed Mr. LoPresti's comments about the Wood-Ridge DPW team. When he hears bad weather is coming, he can sleep with a clear head because he knows that with the great job DPW does, he will not have to close the schools. He stated that tonight served many purposes, not only to learn and participate in government, but to consider the different ways to give back to the community. Even if you do not choose a career in government, there are many volunteer positions that are available in which you can achieve that goal. I am very proud of all of you and enjoy the last few months.

Mayor Marchitelli stated, if no one else wishes to speak, I close the Second Hearing of Citizens.

Mayor Sarlo thanked Mr. Albro for his kind words. Mayor thanked all the students for participating and stated how professional they all look and conducted themselves. This is a very exciting time for you all. Enjoy and embrace every moment. Thank you to the governing body and the staff for all they do.

ADJOURNMENT: was read by Mayor Marchitelli

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Wall, seconded by Councilperson Crews moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on March 4, 2026 was duly adjourned at **5:49** p.m.

Administrator Eilert called for an official adjournment of the Council.

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Wall, seconded by Councilperson Romero moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on March 4, 2026 was duly adjourned at **5:49** p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Affuso, RMC
Borough Clerk