

**CITY OF CLIFTON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 5, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Clifton was held in the Municipal Council Chambers of Clifton City Hall, 900 Clifton Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey.

8:00 P.M. CALL OF ROLL

Mayor Grabowski called the meeting to order and presided, and announced that the location of exits should be noted for use in case of fire or other emergencies and that smoking regulations apply to the building and cell phones should be deactivated and turned off and read the following Statement of Compliance into the record:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice of regularly scheduled meetings of the Municipal Council for the year 2026, which was published as legal advertisements in the Herald News on November 20, 2025, and was additionally advertised in the Record on November 20, 2025. Further notice of this meeting was given on Friday prior to the meeting by posting of said notice on the bulletin board at City Hall and on the Clifton Website, which notice stated that formal action may or may not be taken on matters to come before the Municipal Council.

Upon roll call, the following were noted present:

Councilman Gibson	(BG) Absent
Councilman Kolodziej	(JK)
Councilman Latona	(AL)
Councilman D'Amato	(CD)
Councilwoman Pino	(RP)
Councilwoman Sadrakula	(MS)
Mayor Grabowski	(RG)

Also present were City Attorney, Thomas Egan; Assistant City Attorney, Andrew Oddo; City Manager, Gary De Marzo; City Clerk, Kathleen Tolosi; Deputy City Clerk, Megan Krusznis.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / INVOCATION / PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Rev. Farrar ~ Hope Reformed Church

PRESENTATION

Proclamation ~ Designating May 5 - June 5 as "Paint the Town Purple Month" and June 6 as "Relay for Life Day" in the City of Clifton (R210-26)

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Councilman Kolodziej, seconded by Councilman D'Amato and passed on roll call vote to approve the following Minutes, with an amendment to the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2026 to include the roll call votes for resolutions 188-26, 196-26, and 197-26:

Workshop Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2026
Regular Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2026
Executive Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2026

COMMUNICATIONS MEETING MINUTES

C- 1 Meeting Minutes of the Clifton Arts Center Advisory Board on December 15, 2025
C- 2 Meeting Minutes of the Clifton ABC Board of March 11, 2026
C- 3 Meeting Minutes of the Clifton Traffic Safety Committee on March 19, 2026
C- 4 Meeting Minutes for North District Water Supply Commission on March 25, 2026
C- 5 Meeting Minutes for Passaic Valley Water Commission on March 25, 2026

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

C- 1 Jake Marchione, Human Services, Resigned Position of Part Time Code Enforcement Officer, effective April 6, 2026

C- 2 Steven Vidal, Human Services, hired as Code Enforcement Officer Part-Time, effective April 20, 2026

C- 3 Toyin Gayle-Sutherland, Human Services, resigned position of Registered Environmental Health Specialist Public Health, effective April 23, 2026

SECOND READING ORDINANCES

A. Adoption of Ordinance 8091-26

B. Public Hearing on Ordinance 8091-26

Mayor Grabowski opened the floor to the public with regard to the Ordinance 8091-26

With no one wishing to be heard, a Motion was made by Councilman Kolodziej, seconded by Councilman D'Amato and passed on roll call vote to close the public hearing.

The following entitled ordinance had been introduced and having passed on first reading, which first reading was by title and said entitled ordinance having been published according to the law and thereafter placed on the Agenda of the present meeting, said ordinance was brought up for public hearing at the opening of such hearing said ordinance was given a second reading which reading was by title and all persons interested having been given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and upon motion, adopted said hearing was closed and said ordinance was thereafter finally passed without amendments.

An Ordinance Authorizing Extension of Lease Agreement by and Between HR Managing Group, LLC and the City of Clifton, for Property Located at 207 Parker Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey

(6-0-0-1) Councilman D'Amato, Councilman Kolodziej, Councilman Latona, Councilwoman Pino, Councilwoman Sadrakula, and Mayor Grabowski voted Aye. Councilman Gibson absent.

FIRST READING ORDINANCES

A. Introduction of Ordinance 8098-26

The entitled ordinance was introduced and read by the City Clerk, as first reading, which reading was by title, passed upon a Motion made by Councilman D'Amato and seconded by Councilwoman Pino.

Authorization to Approve an Ordinance to Amend, Revise and Supplement Chapter 99 of the Code of the City of Clifton, Entitled "Salaries and Compensation," More Particularly Article VI Thereof, Entitled "Confidential Officials and Employees," Section 99-34, Entitled "Minimum and Maximum Salaries Fixed" (Adds Compensation for Primary Human Resource Officer and Secondary Human Resource Officer (HRO) and Removes the Titles of Communications Manager, EEO Officer and HRO Officer)

It was regularly moved, seconded, and carried that the ordinance now pending be further considered for final passage after public hearing at the regular meeting of the Municipal Council to be held Tuesday May 19, 2026, at 8:00 p.m. and that the City Clerk be authorized to publish said ordinance together with statutory notice as required by law.

(5-1-0-1) Councilman D'Amato, Councilman Latona, Councilwoman Pino, Councilwoman Sadrakula, and Mayor Grabowski voted Aye. Councilman Kolodziej voted Nay. Councilman Gibson absent.

FLOOR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Joseph Siano thanked everyone who reached out regarding the passing of his dog, and he thanked the council for their support of Clifton Day. He noted all vendors, non-profits, and businesses that will participate are from Clifton. He spoke about an incident with the Revaluation inspectors and noted their behavior at an inspection on his property, and he also noted a few incidents that were reported to him by other property owners. He requested the council investigate the incidents. He feels the inspectors need to

conduct these inspections fairly, accurately and respectfully. He also feels there is growing division in the community, especially the hostility on social media.

Gary Perino gave praise to Officer DeYoung who settled the incident with the stolen dog. He thanked the City Manager for reading the Traffic Safety Committee meeting minutes and thanked the Police Department for posting an officer on Mount Prospect Avenue. He feels infrastructure is inadequate in Clifton and it needs to be updated. He spoke out against the electric bike groups that ride around town. He requested license plate reader cameras be installed along the mall properties, Route 19, Route 20, and Route 21. He asked why there is no ordinance stating that the homeowners or business owners with handicapped curbs or fire plugs are responsible for shoveling them out during a snowstorm. He asked if landscapers can be ticketed for putting out clippings days before pick-ups, if noise can be addressed, and if the signs on telephone poles can be taken down.

Tejal Desai stated a tree on her block snapped from the wind and took down power lines, and the same trees planted decades ago may be deemed unstable. She asked the council to conduct a study to replace hazardous trees before they damage properties or put residents at risk.

David Joseph asked what happened at the property in town on Main Avenue where the person was killed, and he stated there were no signs posted about calling in violations and hazardous conditions. He asked who would be held responsible for the accident. He stated that religious communities need more dialogue and communication regarding pedestrian and traffic safety.

Gerard Scorziello shared an observation he had that what is lacking in our community is leadership focused on the residents' real concerns. He feels that the city needs a viable economic development plan. He also feels we are underappreciating what we have.

Assad Mujtaba announced his candidacy for council and noted he feels decisions and responsibilities are not always easy for council members. He wished all the Clifton mothers a Happy Mother's Day. He stated his plan to launch a program called Clifton Voice, where residents could send their input on concerns they have in the city and on ordinances. He stated that his website is mujtabaforclifton.com. He feels that the city must manage growth where it does not burden the residents. He advised the council to be cautious of PILOT programs, which he feels delays revenue for decades.

Donna Popowich requested donations from the community for Little Free Pantries to support Clifton families in need. The rising gas prices are affecting everyone in town. She also stated that the Department of Labor changed the test and classification rules for what is an independent contractor and what is an employee.

Rob Samarati feels that permit parking in Richfield is a legally protected interest, and he does not understand why stakeholders are included in the discussion. He also noted his frustration with the division in the community.

Tarek Alnatur shared what he feels are practical revenue strategies to improve the city's finances. He feels the city needs to introduce smart meters for parking, online permitting, electronic requests and concerns from residents, red light cameras on buses, sale of right-of-way or undeveloped land, and leasing access for infrastructure. He feels the city needs to correct their strategy and execution.

Eric Babula feels the fence along Chelsea Road at Chelsea Park is a necessity. He described an incident he responded to as a Clifton firefighter and feels the council has an opportunity to prevent tragedies in the future.

Diane Talia feels that the residents of Richfield deserve permit parking. She also asked if there are any plans to fix and install lighting at the Allwood Road circle.

Ali Aljarrah, a current resident of Little Falls and former resident of Clifton, announced he is running for a seat on the Passaic County Board of Commissioners. He feels County Government should support municipalities and all its residents and working families.

Eugene Diaz feels he received public insults and accusations of moral corruption and impropriety by council members at the April 7th meeting and on social media after he spoke against the proposed ordinance change for Affordable Housing. He stated that he did not defend himself against those accusations that evening because he respects the rules of the council chambers.

Tom Whittles thanked the mayor and council for approving the Parker Avenue satellite office. He thanked Councilman Latona for speaking up about the zoning enforcement and quality of life issues all around the

city. He feels there will still be a large number of speakers at the council meetings if the council members do not start answering the residents' questions.

Pete Tandon announced that there is a free comedy night at Athenia Veterans Post every Friday night.

Dawn Buzzie stated that the residents of Richfield feel they have lost their rights. She feels they deserve permit parking and asked why their request has anything to do with the use of the land for the mosque. She asked the council to reconsider the residents' request.

A resident identifying himself as "Anonymous" requested the Council amend the minutes of the March 3rd, 2026, meeting to include the full statement he made regarding alleged violations at a preschool. He stated City Officials do not understand their roles or whom they serve. He submitted a document to the Clerk for inclusion in the meeting file.

Ahmed Abdelbaki asked if there is an ordinance that prevents clapping at the council meetings. He spoke against Zionists and genocide in Palestine and Gaza.

Judy Gergatz spoke out against the previous speaker and feels his comments have nothing to do with Clifton business. She asked why the Richfield section permit parking request was denied.

Joseph Swiatek spoke out about the Planning Board application for the Pershing Road Mosque which included a document stating the Police Department understood the traffic issues. He feels the neighborhood will suffer. He asked what measures the council will take to alleviate the problems.

Andrea McGimpsey feels the suggestion of one-way streets in the Richfield section of town will be a struggle for the senior members of the community. She feels the neighborhood deserves permit parking.

James Evers notified the council of a zoning and code enforcement complaint he submitted about a property next to him on Lake Avenue that constructed three structures without permits. He feels it is a potential life safety issue and asked for the council's help in resolving the matter.

Mary Fran Simmons spoke about comments made by a previous speaker, Mr. Abdelbaki, and stated the residents of Richfield are not involved in comments being posted on social media.

Liz Burghoffer stated the mosque size was defended by stating it would serve the entire congregation. She asked what the residents deserve and she feels that the residents are being discriminated against. She asked what the council plans to do to correct the issues.

With no one else wishing to be heard, a Motion was made by Councilwoman Sadrakula, seconded by Councilman D'Amato and passed on roll call vote to close the public session.

(6-0-0-1) Councilman D'Amato, Councilman Kolodziej, Councilman Latona, Councilwoman Pino, Councilwoman Sadrakula and Mayor Grabowski voted Aye. Councilman Gibson absent.

CITY MANAGER PRIVILEGE/RESPONSE TO RESIDENTS

City Manager, Gary DeMarzo, made no comments this evening.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Latona reported that there are new initiatives to help the Clifton community. He joined the Unhoused Task Force as a committee member. There were 2,500-plus guests housed over 92 nights during Code Blue this winter. The cost to the city totaled \$79,000 this year. Clifton Public Schools, Clifton Public Library, and St. Peter's Haven, and many other programs assisted the Health Department with the program.

COUNCIL PRIVILEGE

Councilman D'Amato

Councilman D'Amato announced that he will forfeit his time this evening and will issue a written statement online addressing some of the comments.

Councilman Latona

Councilman Latona wished Councilman Gibson and Robin Gibson a happy 30th anniversary. There is an Israeli flag raising at 6:00 PM at City Hall on May 6th. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day. There

have been years of discussion about the Hometown Heroes program and installing banners for our military community members, and he intends to get the committee together as soon as possible to install the first one hundred banners before July 4th. He requested a status update on Pearl Brook and the Third River clean-up, and Abbe Lane sidewalks. He asked for code enforcement to give residents time to submit their sidewalk reimbursement forms before issuing summonses. He asked the City Manager to check with utility companies before we begin paving any of the roads in the city. He congratulated Assad on running for council. He appreciated the suggestions made by Mr. Alnatur for revenue generation. He addressed the statement made by Mr. Diaz and agreed that developers are not the enemy. He asked the City Manager to review the policy on Quality-of-Life officers and their schedules. He offered the Jones and Lil families prayers.

Councilwoman Pino

Councilwoman Pino thanked all the speakers who came out this evening. She noted the need for food donations to support our community, and she thanked Donna for her commitment to the Little Free Pantries and Clifton. She thanked everyone who came to the microphone for being articulate and having the ability to make their point. She feels that the council needs to be able to meet the residents halfway and collaborate to solve the issue of parking in Richfield. She thanked the community and administration for supporting the ECHO spring carnival and noted it was an outstanding event. She invited all to the ECHO Auto Show fundraiser event at the Clifton Masonic Lodge on May 17th. She advised the public that sponsors are needed for the July 4th event and invited all who are interested to reach out to her. She highlighted and thanked the Clifton teachers and noted it is Teacher Appreciation Week. She touched on her own personal struggle with cancer thanked everyone who participates in cancer research, and she noted she is happy for the upcoming Relay for Life event. She thanked Matt Lock in the Health Department for participating in the carnival and showing his ability to engage with the community. She wished everyone Happy Mother's Day and her son Larkin a happy birthday.

Councilman Kolodziej

Councilman Kolodziej announced the upcoming events for Recreation which included the Night for a Princess on May 8th, the City-Wide garage sale on June 5th through 7th, and that summer camp registration will be opening soon and asked the public to please visit CliftonRec.com. He advised that the Revaluation company is being invited back to speak with the council during the May 19th meeting, and he noted that if there is a discrepancy between what the company submits to the city and what we have recorded, that is a sign that the city needs to address any illegal housing. He noted we have an arborist who goes to sites on an individual basis, and he appreciated the advice from Ms. Desai on a tree inventory and assessment, however, it's not in the 2026 budget. He agreed with Mr. Alnatur on his suggestions for revenue. He noted that PILOT programs do not delay revenue to the city, and that applying for grants does not equal success. He asked the City Manager how the revenue is coming in and how residents will know about the registration process for Air BnB. He requested a status update on the discussion about Affordable Housing with the City Planner. He noted that we do not have the staff or the funding to address every Quality-of-Life issue.

Councilwoman Sadrakula

Councilwoman Sadrakula stated that Quality-of-Life staff needs to be increased. She noted that on May 19th at 6:00 PM the Revaluation company will be coming in and she motioned for the public to have the ability to ask questions. She requested the Master Plan be sent to the Zoning Committee for review and comments. She requested answers about the property on Main Street where the construction worker was killed. She thanked residents for attending her "Town Hall". She requested an insurance audit and motioned to have it on for discussion at the next meeting, which was seconded by Councilman D'Amato.

Mayor Grabowski

Mayor Grabowski asked the City Manager and the Legal Department for a way to be able to answer the residents about Richfield permit parking, and he noted that he feels they deserve an answer. City Manager DeMarzo replied that the answer is that the mosque is a protected interest and there could be active litigation relative to this. The mayor also noted that he hopes all of Clifton attends the Relay for Life event. He agrees with his colleagues regarding Quality-of-Life staff. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 200-26

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO ROUTE 23 AUTOMALL
OFF OF A SOURCEWELL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACT FOR FOR
FORD AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND SUPPLIES**

WHEREAS, the City of Clifton is allowed to participate in inter-local purchasing systems per N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 (b) P.L. 2011, c.139 which was enacted into law permitting agencies to utilize cooperative purchasing agreements with other states; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to resolution R274-18, adopted June 19, 2018, the City of Clifton is a member of Sourcewell National Cooperative, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2, and LFN 2012-10; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution R127-26 of March 31,2026, an advertisement was placed in the Herald News, to announce the City’s interest in utilizing the Sourcewell national cooperative for Ford Automotive Parts, Service and Supplies, which was awarded Route 23 Automall , located at 1301 Route 23 Butler NJ 07405-1727; and

WHEREAS, the current contract term for Sourcewell contract #080124-FMC for Ford Automotive Parts,Service and Supplies expires on November 14,2028; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent is satisfied with the procurement process conducted by Sourcewell, and the contract which was awarded to Route 23 Automall., located at 1301 Route 23 Butler NJ 07405-1727, pursuant to the proposal submitted in response to Sourcewell’s Notice to Bidders Titled “Ford Automotive Parts, Service and Supplies” and Contract Award # 080124-FMC for Ford Automotive Parts, Service and Supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent followed all applicable guidelines stipulated by the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services as outlined in Local Finance Notice 2012-10, and finds all is in compliance with the guidance in LFN 2012-10, pursuant to the proposal submitted, and is in concurrence with the DPW Director to recommend award of the same; and

WHEREAS, there were no alternative approaches and/or rejections made by any New Jersey contractors/vendors by the May 3,2026 comment deadline; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq., the Municipal Council wishes to authorize the aforesaid mentioned purchase and delegate the power to make the same to the following named official: Amisha Jariwala, Purchasing Agent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Municipal Council of the City of Clifton, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The City of Clifton is authorized to award said Ford Automotive Parts, Services and Supplies pursuant to Sourcewell contract number #080124-FMC.
2. The proposal submitted by for the procurement of Ford Automotive Parts, Service and Supplies as described above, for a combined total not to exceed amount of \$35,000.00 is hereby awarded.
3. Regarding Fund Certification, funds are available under the following account number:
01-201-26-315-202, Auto Expenses

RESOLUTION 201-26

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RFS COMMERCIAL, INC.
FOR THE REPAIR AND REFINISHING OF THE HARDWOOD FLOOR AT THE
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER THROUGH THE HUNTERDON COUNTY
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION (HCESC) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City of Clifton's Recreation Department has identified the need to repair and refinish a portion of the hardwood floor at the Community Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clifton is authorized to procure goods and services through cooperative purchasing programs pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5); and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) has competitively bid and awarded a contract for Commercial Floor Covering & Related Services, Bid #215, Co-Op #34HUNCCP, which is available for use by cooperative purchasing participants; and

WHEREAS, RFS Commercial, Inc. has been identified as the qualified vendor under the HCESC cooperative purchasing program for the scope of work required at the Community Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, the scope of work includes removal and disposal of old flooring, installation of new flooring, sanding of new hardwood floor, and application of a finish to the new floor; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for the project is \$17,472.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available in Account No. 04-215-55-954-706 (Community Center Improvements 7311-16) to fund this project; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Clifton to utilize this cooperative purchasing contract to obtain the necessary services in an efficient and cost-effective manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton hereby authorize the award of a contract to RFS Commercial, Inc. for the repair and refinishing of the hardwood floor at the Community Recreation Center through the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) Cooperative Purchasing Program, Bid #215, Co-Op #34HUNCCP — Commercial Floor Covering & Related Services.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS Payment for said services shall be charged to Account No. 04-215-55-954-706 (Community Center Improvements 7311-16), and the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that sufficient funds are available therein

RESOLUTION 202-26

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CLIFTON AMENDING RESOLUTION R128-26 TO INCREASE THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT FOR THE PURCHASE OF HEAVY-DUTY EQUIPMENT REPAIR PARTS, TOOLS, WORK EQUIPMENT, AND RENTALS FOR CATERPILLAR MACHINERY FROM FOLEY INCORPORATED THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2026, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton adopted Resolution R128-26, authorizing the purchase of Heavy Duty Equipment Repair Parts from Foley Incorporated, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program, for the Department of Public Works, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000.00 for the 2026 budget year; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has determined that the original not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000.00 is insufficient to meet the operational needs of the department for the full 2026 budget year; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has identified the need to purchase work tools compatible with current heavy equipment to increase the efficiency of departmental projects performed throughout the year, reduce worker injuries, improve productivity, and allow the department to complete more projects in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS, Foley Incorporated located 855 Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 at is currently an approved vendor under State-approved cooperative ESCNJ Bid #22/23-12, Contract #65MCECOPS, which is valid through August 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clifton is authorized to procure goods and services through cooperative purchasing programs pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton is hereby amending Resolution R128-26, adopted on March 17, 2026, to increase the not-to-exceed amount for the purchase of Heavy Duty Equipment Repair Parts, Tools, Work Equipment, and Rentals for Caterpillar Machinery from Foley Incorporated from Forty Thousand Dollars \$40,000.00 to One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars \$150,000.00 for the 2026 budget year.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS Funding is available in the Temporary Vehicle Maintenance Auto Expense account 01-201-26-315-202

Funds for Tools and Work Equipment is in the following Capital Accounts:

04-215-55-973-610 Snow Meter Bond Ordinance 7740-22

04-215-55-973-611 29 Yard Packer Trucks Bond Ordinance 7740-22

RESOLUTION 203-26

This Resolution was tabled.

RESOLUTION 204-26

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO PHOENIX ADVISORS FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF CLIFTON

WHEREAS, the City of Clifton is in need of a financial services firm to assist the City's Finance Office regarding the following:

- Debt issuance – bonds, notes, leases, etc.;
- Finance Office logistical support;
- Investment of proceeds and bidding agent services;
- Lease-purchase financing; and
- Budget/fiscal consulting.

WHEREAS, the firm of Phoenix Advisors, has been providing services to the City of Clifton in a satisfactory manner for the past year; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council wishes to award a renewal of the said contract, on the same terms and conditions as previously agreed upon; and

WHEREAS, the services to be performed are professional and/or extraordinary unspecifiable services, within the meaning of those terms as used in the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-1 *et seq.*, and, accordingly, a contract may be awarded therefor without public advertising for bids and bidding in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5; and

WHEREAS, this award is of a non-fair and open contract in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 19:44-A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the estimated value of the contract is expected to be in excess of \$17,500.00, and the duration of the contract is for one year; and

WHEREAS, the Business Entity Disclosure Certification has been received from counsel and is incorporated in the contract awarded hereby, along with the Determination of Value; and

WHEREAS, there are funds available for payment for the services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a professional services renewal contract as aforesaid be and the same is hereby awarded Phoenix Advisors, 2000 Waterview Drive, Suite 101, Hamilton, New Jersey 08691, for one year, at a cost as follows:

FEES FOR BASE SERVICES (per transaction, except as otherwise indicated):

SMART Program Base Fee:	\$6,000 (May-December)
Bond Issuance:	\$8,000 plus \$0.50 per \$1,000 issued
Note Issuance*:	\$500 plus \$0.25 per \$1,000 issued

*An additional fee of \$1,000 applies when notes are sold with a Preliminary Official Statement.

Continuing Disclosure, including Debt Caddie:

- Annual Base Fee Waived
- New/Additional Issue Setup Fee Waived
- Event Notice Filing Fee Waived

Lease-Purchase Financings: Waived

Rating Agency Surveillance: Waived

Conduit Financing (NJIB, USDA, etc.): Waived

FEES FOR ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED SERVICES ** (per transaction, except as otherwise indicated):

Hourly rates for specialized consulting services not related to the issuance of debt, billable quarterly in arrears:

- Managing Director \$195 per hour
- Associate/Analyst \$145 per hour

Bank Loan Bond Issuance: \$5,000 flat fee

Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP) \$8,000 plus \$0.50 per \$1,000 issued

Financings: minimum of \$12,000

Budget/Fiscal Consulting Hourly rates

Other Specialized Consulting Projects: Hourly rates

**If necessary or requested

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the required Certificate of Availability of Funds for the above contract was obtained from the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Clifton and is endorsed hereon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the original of this resolution and the contract above referred to be placed on file and made available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Clifton; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract on behalf of the City of Clifton; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following short notice be printed once in a legal newspaper of the City of Clifton:

**CITY OF CLIFTON
NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD**

The City of Clifton has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as a professional service pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 40:11-5(1)(a). The contract and the resolution authorizing it are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk.

Awarded to: Phoenix Advisors
 Services: Chief Financial Officer Services
 Project: Financial Services
 Amount: Not to exceed \$30,000
 Term: One Year

RESOLUTION 205-26

**RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE
CLIFTON ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey are aware of the resignation of Linda Kowalski from the Advisory Board of Health; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are in receipt of an application from Mohamed Ahmed to become a Member of the Advisory Board of Health;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Municipal Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that Mohamed Ahmed is hereby appointed as a Member of the Advisory Board of commencing this day to fill the unexpired term through September 30, 2027.

RESOLUTION 206-26

**RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE
PICNIC & FIREWORKS COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey are in receipt of an application from Esther Aramboles to become a Member of the Picnic & Fireworks Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Municipal Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that Esther Aramboles be and is hereby appointed to the Picnic & Fireworks Committee commencing 5/5/2026.

RESOLUTION 207-26

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ICE CREAM PEDDLERS LICENSE
RENEWAL – R&H CATERING FOR YEAR 2026**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey are in receipt of a renewal application for an Ice Cream Peddlers License from Norberto Berrios owner of R & H Catering, 55 Long Hill Drive, Clifton, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, all paperwork has been completed by the applicant and all fees have been paid; and

WHEREAS, all inspections have been completed by the Health, Zoning and Police Departments; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, and State of New Jersey that approval for a renewal application for an Ice Cream Peddlers License from Norberto Berrios, owner of R & H Catering, 55 Long Hill Drive, Clifton, New Jersey, is hereby granted.

Company name:
R&H Catering

Owner:
Norberto Berrios
Helene Berrios

Approved Operator:

Norberto Berrios
Helene Berrios

Approved Vehicle:

1995 Chevy Van 1GBGP32Z853311012

Parking Location:

156-168 Oliver Street, Paterson, NJ 07501

RESOLUTION 208-26

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LIMOUSINE LICENSE RENEWAL –
AL BASHA LIMOUSINE SERVICES, LLC FOR YEAR 2026**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey are in receipt of a renewal application for a Limousine License from Salah K. Al Atrash the owner and operator of Al Basha Limousine Service, LLC, in the City of Clifton; and

WHEREAS, all paperwork has been completed and all fees have been paid; and

WHEREAS, all inspections have been completed by the Police and Zoning Departments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that approval for a renewal application for a Limousine License from Salah K. Al Atrash the owner and operator of Al Basha Limousine Service, LLC in the City of Clifton is hereby granted.

Company name:

Al Basha Limousine Service, LLC

Owner and Operator:

Salah K. Al Atrash

Approved Vehicles:

2023 Chevrolet Tahoe LT4WD 1GNSKNKD8PR293367

Approved Parking Location:

39 Gould Place, Clifton, NJ 07013

RESOLUTION 209-26

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NEW FLORIST LICENSE –
GETTY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, LLC FOR YEAR 2026**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey are in receipt of an application for a New Florist License from Basel Bataineh, Getty Development Partners, LLC located at 600 Getty Avenue in the City of Clifton; and

WHEREAS, all paperwork has been completed by the applicant and all fees have been paid; and

WHEREAS, all inspections have been completed by the Zoning, Fire, Health and Police Departments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, and State of New Jersey that approval for a New Florist License to Basel Bataineh, Getty Development Partners, LLC, 600 Getty Avenue, Clifton, be and is hereby granted.

RESOLUTION 210-26

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 5, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 5, 2026 AS
“PAINT THE TOWN PURPLE MONTH” AND
JUNE 6, 2026 AS “RELAY FOR LIFE DAY”
IN THE CITY OF CLIFTON**

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer by saving lives, and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service;

WHEREAS, the Relay for Life is a community event that allows participants from all walks of life to join together in the fight against cancer; and

WHEREAS, the annual event brings people together to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and empower individuals to fight back against this disease; and

WHEREAS, during the months of May and June, the Relay for Life participants will “Paint the Town Purple” to raise awareness in the community on the need for a cure; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society’s Annual Relay for Life of Clifton will be held at the Clifton Stadium on June 6, 2026, the theme of the event being “Strike Out Cancer”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Members of the Municipal Council of the City of Clifton, that we join in the “PAINT THE TOWN PURPLE” campaign during the months of May and June, and designate June 6, 2026, as

**RELAY FOR LIFE DAY IN THE CITY OF CLIFTON
“Strike Out Cancer”**

and we encourage all citizens to participate in this worthy event and to contribute to its success in any way possible.

RESOLUTION 211-26

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council deems it essential in the furtherance of the public interest, to discuss, in closed session, as expressly permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, the following subject(s), to be discussed as per the Agenda and the Resolution; and

- CON-1 Litigation ~ Raineri’s Service Station, Inc. d/b/a Raineri Towing Service v. City of Clifton, et al., Docket No.: PAS-L-1361-26
- CON-2 Litigation ~ Priore v. Clifton, et al., Docket No.: PAS-L-1060-26
- CON-3 Contracts ~ Fire Chief Contract Negotiations
- CON-4 Contracts ~ SOA Contract Negotiations
- CON-5 Contracts ~ Proposed PILOT Overview for the Hotel and the On3 Campus
- CON-6 Contracts ~ RFPs for Outside Attorney Contract Negotiations
- CON-7 Personnel ~ #1
- CON-8 Litigation ~ Affordable House Plan Litigation Docket No. PAS-L-272-25

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public shall be excused and excluded from this portion of the Council’s meeting to be held on May 5, 2026 at which time, said subject(s) shall be discussed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the discussion held at such closed session can be disclosed to the public on or about the time the matter is concluded.

RESOLUTION 212-26

**RESOLUTION
TO APPROVE**

**Claims to be paid the meeting of May 5th, 2026
Meeting of May 5th, 2026**

Resolved that all claims on the attached sheets are approved as reasonable and proper claims against the City of Clifton.

Current Fund	\$	31,426,941.24
Grant Fund	\$	144,412.17
General Capital Fund	\$	74,246.28
Sewer Utility -Operating	\$	2,413,805.42
Sewer Utility-Capital	\$	48,664.00
Developers Escrow	\$	6,778.74
Dog Trust	\$	315.27
Revolving Loan Fund	\$	-
Open Space Trust	\$	4,000.00
Police Extra Duty	\$	145,069.00
Trust Other	\$	59,030.37
Section 8 Public Housing	\$	4,963.00
Affordable Housing	\$	5,280.25
Community Development	\$	17,457.20
Payroll Agency	\$	-
Tax Title Lien Redemption	\$	-
UCC Trust	\$	37,019.28
	\$	-
Self Insurance	\$	1,168,662.58
Fire Dedicated Penalties	\$	-
Revolving Loan Fund	\$	-
Tax Title Lien Redemption	\$	-
Unemployment Trust Fund	\$	-
Library	\$	101,604.01
General Liability Trust	\$	69,447.34
Workers Compensation Trust	\$	23,837.83
Trust Escrow	\$	-
Reserve for Housing	\$	-
Federal DOJ Forfeiture	\$	-
TOTAL CLAIMS	\$	35,751,533.98

LICENSES

L- 1 Prime Stop Convenience

RESOLUTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR PRIME STOP CONVENIENCE, LLC T/A PRIME STOP CONVENIENCE ADDRESS 141 VALLEY RD., CLIFTON, NJ 07013 TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INTENDED GROCERY/MILK - CONTINUED USE FORMERLY OR NEW D & G GROCERY ZONE PERMITTED YES VARIANCE REQUIRED NO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE ISSUED PENDING APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS.

L- 2 Feteer Lounge

RESOLUTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR FETEER LOUNGE, LLC T/A FETEER LOUNGE ADDRESS 1551 MAIN AVE., CLIFTON, NJ 07011 TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INTENDED RESTAURANT - CONTINUED USE FORMERLY OR NEW SHALLAH RESTAURANT ZONE PERMITTED YES VARIANCE REQUIRED NO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE ISSUED PENDING APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS.

L- 3 Agua Planeta Azul

RESOLUTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR AGUA PLANETA AZUL, LLC T/A AGUA PLANETA AZUL ADDRESS 1031 MAIN AVE., CLIFTON, NJ 07011 TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INTENDED GROCERY - NEW FORMERLY OR NEW ZONE BC PERMITTED YES VARIANCE REQUIRED NO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE ISSUED PENDING APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS.

L- 4 Spark by Hilton Clifton

RESOLUTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR APPLE M HOSPITALITY, LLC T/A SPARK BY HILTON CLIFTON ADDRESS 680 RT 3., CLIFTON, NJ 07012 TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INTENDED RESTAURANT - CONTINUED FORMERLY OR NEW HOWARD JOHNSON ZONE PD-HC PERMITTED YES VARIANCE REQUIRED NO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE ISSUED PENDING APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS.

L- 5 Old Navy #1657

This license was tabled.

L- 6 Stewie the Duck Swim School

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SWIMMING POOL LICENSE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE APPLICATION OF: 691 CLIFTON AVENUE OWNER, LLC t/a 691 CLIFTON AVENUE OWNER to operate a Swimming Pool for a period ending December 31, 2026 on the premises known as: 691 PAULISON AVE., CLIFTON , NJ 07011 be and the same is hereby approved and the license so issued.

L- 7 Dos Mas Halal Taqueria No. 1

RESOLUTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR DOS MAS HALAL TAQUERIA NO . 1, LLC T/A DOS MAS HALAL TAQUERIA NO . 1 ADDRESS 1030 RTE 46, CLIFTON, NJ 07013 TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INTENDED RESTAURANT - NEW FORMERLY OR NEW NEW ZONE PERMITTED YES VARIANCE REQUIRED NO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE ISSUED PENDING APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER PROCESSING AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a Motion made by Councilwoman Sadrakula, seconded by Councilman Latona, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Tolosi, City Clerk

Raymond Grabowski, Mayor