



**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER**

WORK SESSION MINUTES: WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 8, 2025

THIS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CLOSTER MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN-PERSON, TELEPHONICALLY, and VIA ZOOM VIDEO. You may join the Zoom meeting including video by accessing the information posted in the Borough Calendar on the Borough website by visiting [www.closterboro.com](http://www.closterboro.com) and clicking the link on the left sidebar for Calendars and Notice of Meetings and click on the corresponding date. To join via Telephone Audio Only: +1 301-715-8592; MEETING ID: 864 2063 3673; PASSWORD: 8675309

- 1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

**Mayor Glidden opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following announcement:** This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, was included in the Notice of 2025 Mayor and Council Meetings which was published in The Record on December 29, 2024 and The Star-Ledger on December 30, 2024, was posted on the Municipal Clerk’s bulletin board and on the Borough website, and has remained posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of the notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Mayor Glidden	✓	
Councilwoman Amitai	✓	
Councilman Cho	✓	
Councilwoman Chung		✓
Councilwoman Latner	✓	
Councilwoman Maroules	✓	
Council President Yammarino	✓	

4. **REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS:**

- a. Mail List of September 26, 2025 Councilwoman Latner spoke about Item #5 thanking the Department of Public Works for their work.
- b. Mail List of October 3, 2025 Councilwoman Amitai spoke about Item #2 and the wonderful job Leslie Weatherly and Mayor John Glidden, Jr. are doing on the newsletter.

5. **ORDINANCES:**

**ADOPTION:**

- a. **ORDINANCE NO. 2025:1373**  
**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN SALARIES AMENDING ORD NO 2024:1340**

The meeting was opened to the Public for any comment or discussion. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed to the public.

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councilwoman Amitai			✓			
Councilman Cho			✓			
Councilwoman Chung					✓	
Councilwoman Latner	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Maroules			✓			
Councilman Yammarino		✓	✓			

**6. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR MEETING**

- \*25-247 BILLS LIST
- \*25-248 CANCEL TAXES RECEIVABLE FOR A DISABLED VETERAN – 98 BIRCH STREET
- \*25-249 DECLARING OCTOBER AS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
- \*25-250 AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH BOSWELL ENGINEERING TO PREPARE A STUDY FOR PROPOSED POLICE STATION
- \*25-251 AUTHORIZE A PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE AUTOMOTIVE PARTS – P&G AUTO INC.
- \*25-252 AUTHORIZE A PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS – MAHWAH FORD SALES
- \*25-253 AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS OF STIPENDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
- \*25-254 AUTHORIZING SALARY INCREASES TO THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT
- \*25-255 CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Glidden pulled Item 25-250 because he felt more discussion and information is necessary before a resolution is passed. Councilwoman Amitai asked for clarification on 25-253.

**7. PROFESSIONAL REPORTS**

- a. BOROUGH ENGINEER: The Vervalen/Piermont job is still in the County’s hands. For the Swim Club, the material is with the EPA. For the 2025 Road program, the construction is complete, but some punch list items remain. For Ruckman Pond bank stabilization, the bank work has been done; some paving relating to pipework in the parking lot remains. Councilwoman Amitai asked about an email from a resident about erosion; Engineer Nick DeNicola does not know whether there is an easement on that particular property. The DPW has looked at the property and has spoken to the resident. Engineer Nick DeNicola and Administrator James Winters will also review the situation.
- b. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR: The pole barns are awaiting the final CO (in the next couple of weeks). The Best Practices checklist is complete. A 32 score is required for full funding. Closter scored 41. The Village School meeting at the state took place, and the developer received their tax credits and approval. The building permits are prepared and awaiting payment. The Mayor, Administrator, and insurance broker are working to find constructive avenues for health insurance.

- c. CHIEF OF POLICE: The intersection at Knickerbocker and High Street will be revisited to complete the upgrades on the traffic light. Demarest Avenue and Closter Dock will receive a stop sign and striping. The Halloween Festival and Car Show are scheduled at the end of the month at Tenakill School. Veolia will be working on Schraalenburgh Road at the bridge. An e-bike seminar will be held on October 28 at the Senior Center at 7:00 P.M. This will be publicized on social media. Pre-registration is available; all adults are invited. Children are discouraged due to space. This will be addressed further in Closed Session.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

The NVD Fall Play, Dracula, will be performed November 21-23.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Amitai spoke about a letter received from an attorney concerning a young girl's allergy to an oak tree that is a Borough tree. The family would like it taken down. Jim Oettinger from the Shade Tree Commission spoke. Members of the Shade Tree Commission do not want it taken down.

Council President Yammarino asked that the Halloween Festival and Car Show be officially approved. This will be addressed in the Regular Meeting. The Halloween House Decorating Contest is approaching. The Fire Department will have an Open House on Sunday 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Borough Clerk Mari Margiotta asked the Governing Body if Monday, January 5, works for a Reorganization meeting. No one had a conflict for that date. It will not be held on January 2, as that is a Friday.

Mayor Glidden asked for volunteers for a committee for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States. Councilwoman Maroules will share names with him. A mosquito spray took place yesterday from 3:00 to 6:00 A.M. There was a Borough blast and phone calls to alert residents. MacBain will hold their harvest celebration Saturday 10/25 from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Shade Tree will have a fall foliage photo contest from 10/11-11/23.

10. **OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS (5 MINUTE LIMIT)**

Libby Chung (40 Union Street) invited everyone to the PTO fall social at Sear House tomorrow. She also apologized for an incorrect email address. She invited everyone to the fall fair, scheduled for 10/26 with a rain date of 10/25, the day before. She also spoke about the many accidents at the intersection of Demarest and Knickerbocker. She asked what people can do. The Mayor explained that this issue has been in discussion; the Chief explained that the timing at Knickerbocker and High Street needs to be changed, which will help. The County will not put in a signal at Knickerbocker and Demarest. The speed limit reduction has already been approved.

Tamer Anciler asked where Ordinances can be viewed ahead of adoption. The Clerk explained that Ordinances are introduced at one meeting and adopted at a second meeting. Notices are placed on the website, on the Record, and on the bulletin board. He also asked about the plans for a new Police Station and why. The Police Chief explained that the current Police Station is inadequate legally and in terms of personnel. The Chief explained his search for an acceptable location.

Lisa (87 High Street) spoke about the intersections with Knickerbocker Road and her concern about the intersection of High Street and Piermont Road. She spoke about "don't block the box" and whether a box could be installed at that intersection. The Chief said that the request could be made. She has seen it work in other towns.

Steve Isaacson (97 Columbus) said that he was the instigator for the traffic light at VerValen. He said that the bus should go down VerValen. He stated that the Lenape tract is Green Acres. He suggested that the Police Department stay at the current Borough Hall and move the Borough Hall.

Linda Albelli (353 High Street) said that she was sorry that the feasibility study for a new Police Station had been tabled. She recalled that when she served on the Council there was a proposal to solve the issue that would have worked. In the proposal, the current Borough Hall would have become affordable senior housing. This proposal, which took a year, was not given proper consideration. She said maybe the current building needs to be sold and a new building created.

Dafna Abazov supported a new building but not on Green Acres. She also thanked Mayor Glidden for speaking out against antisemitism.

Leslie Brunnell (2 Taylor) stated that she would not like to use Green Acres for the Police Department or any development.

Descotto (412 Homans Avenue) stated that she works for a company that provides transportation, including taking children to afterschool activities. She asked if there was any interest in this service. Mayor Glidden suggested calling his office to set up a meeting.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councilwoman Amitai			✓			
Councilman Cho			✓			
Councilwoman Chung					✓	
Councilwoman Latner	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Maroules			✓			
Councilman Yammarino		✓	✓			

Work Session adjourned at **8:04 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Mari J. Margiotta  
Borough Clerk