

THE WORK SESSION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON COMMON COUNCIL, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025, AT 7:00 PM, IN THE CITY HALL, 525 HIGH STREET, BURLINGTON, NJ, PURSUANT TO THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT.

This meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of July 8, 2025, was included in a list of meetings notice sent to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times on January 6, 2025, and advertised in said newspapers on January 10, 2025, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 6, 2025, and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Cindy A. Crivaro, RMC
Municipal Clerk

The Municipal Clerk advised the public of the location of the two fire exits: one on the left after exiting the Council Chamber and the other being the entrance to the building.

Governing Body Members present: Dave Ballard, Dawn Bergner-Thompson, George Chachis, Timothy Hutton, Geneva Rijs, Richard Spaulding, Suzanne Woodard.

Also present: Administrator Johanna Conyer, Municipal Attorney Justin Strausser, Esq., Director of Public Works Bill Curry, Police Chief Ryan Elbertson.

SALUTE TO FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phil Augustyn, 307 High Street- suggested there is no traffic enforcement in town; expressed concern that there may be a pedestrian fatality; spoke in opposition of a proposed gun shop in town; spoke of a minor water emergency and complemented the workers for a job well done, but had difficulty getting in touch with them; spoke of Councilman Spaulding's upcoming Community Meeting to be held on July 24th at Lyceum Hall.

Pauline Lloyd, 331 Ridge Road, Southampton, NJ – inquired about applying for a Parade Permit to host a Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser in the City on July 25th from Broad and High Street to the river and Wood Street.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Spaulding announced his upcoming Community Meeting to be held on July 24th at 6:30pm at Lyceum Hall; spoke of opening communication between the City and its residents; encouraged all to attend and help spread the word.

Councilman Hutton asked Chief Elbertson about the possibility of more foot patrol of Special Law Enforcement Officers.

Chief Elbertson spoke of the shortage of SLEO's statewide; many leave for full time employment

elsewhere; currently the City only has two Class I Officers; it is hard to patrol on foot.

Councilman Hutton asked if a police vehicle could be parked.

Chief Elbertson suggested it has been done before; it is non-effective.

Council President Bergner-Thompson reminded everyone of the Foodbank this weekend at Kennedy Park.

PRESENTATIONS

City Paving Conditions Map and City Right of Way Conditions Map – Bill Curry, Director of Public Works

Mr. Curry provided insight behind how the streets and roads are selected for paving, when funding is available; described the inner workings of the GIS mapping system; all water and sewer infrastructure data is on the GIS map.

Discussion ensued amongst Mr. Curry and Council.

Nuisance Committee – Johanna Conyer, Administrator

Administrator Conyer spoke of a new Nuisance Committee composed of various departments.

Police Department Newsletter – Ryan Elbertson, Police Chief

Chief Elbertson spoke of the need for more public awareness; certain criminal investigations fall under the purview of the Prosecutor's Office and have sole discretion over what information can and can't be released to the public; reviewed the six pillars of policing: Building Public Trust and Legitimacy, Policy and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Reduction, Officer Training and Education, and Officer Safety and Wellness.

Discussion ensued amongst Chief Elbertson and Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the motion of Councilman Chachis, seconded by Councilwoman Woodard, this meeting of July 8, 2025, was adjourned.

Cindy A. Crivaro, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Dawn Bergner-Thompson, President
Common Council