COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2026 4:30 p.m.
Town Hall, 1 Veterans Way, Colts Neck

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1. Mayor Viola called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

2. Township Administrator/Municipal Clerk Kathleen Capristo read the following Sunshine Law statement: THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW HAVE BEEN SATISFIED BY NOTICING THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE TWO RIVER TIMES ON JANUARY 3, 2026 STATING THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WOULD BE HELD ON JULY 8, 2026 AT 7:00 P.M., TOWN HALL, 1 VETERANS WAY, COLTS NECK. A COPY IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK. FURTHER NOTICE WAS PROVIDED IN THE NOTICE TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE TWO RIVER TIMES ON APRIL 20, 2026 NOTING THE MEETING TIME CHANGE FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.

   FURTHER NOTICE WAS PROVIDED TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE TWO RIVER TIMES ON JUNE 30, 2026 NOTIC THE MEETING TIME CHANGE FROM 6:30 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

3. Roll call by Deputy Municipal Clerk Brian O'Malley indicated the following:

   Present: Mayor Michael Viola, Deputy Mayor Dan Buzzetta, Committeeman Frank Rizzuto, Committeewoman Tara Torchia Buss, Committeeman John Tobia

   Also Present: Township Administrator/Municipal Clerk Kathleen Capristo, Township Attorney Meghan Bennett, Deputy Municipal Clerk Brian O'Malley, Director of Recreation and Parks Colby Marques

4. Resolution 2026-127- Executive Session – Personnel

Mayor Viola called for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-127. On a motion by Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta, and on a unanimous voice vote, the resolution was approved.

The Township Committee moved into closed session at 5:21 P.M.

The Township Committee returned to public session at 6:30 P.M.

5. Mayor Viola asked everyone to join in the salute to the flag.

6. Mayor Viola asked for a moment of silence.

7. Public Hearing - Monmouth County Municipal Park Improvement Grant Program

   Director Marques presented the grant proposal to the Township Committee, including proposed improvements to Township recreation facilities.

   Mayor Viola requested a motion to open for public comment. On a motion by Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto, and on a voice vote, public comment was opened.

   Observing no requests for public comment, Mayor Viola requested a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Committeeman Rizzuto, seconded by Committeewoman Buss, and on a voice vote, public comment was closed.

   The Township Committee directed Director Marques to advance the grant application.

8. Discussion Item - Colts Neck Prevention Alliance

Committeewoman Buss introduced the discussion of whether the Township should continue its involvement in the Municipal Alliance.

9. Discussion Item – Storm Update

Mayor Viola provided an update on the Township's response to the previous weekend's storm.

10. Approval of Minutes

a. June 24, 2026– Regular Meeting
b. June 24, 2026 – Closed Session

Mayor Viola asked for any comments or changes. Mayor Viola called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto, and on a roll call vote, the motion was approved.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta		X			
Rizzuto	S	X			
Torchia Buss	M	X			
Tobia		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote		NV - Not Voting		Ab - Absent	

11. New Business

a. Resolution 2026-128 - Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the Monmouth County Municipal Park Improvement Grant Program

Mayor Viola requested a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Tobia, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta, and on a roll call vote, the motion was approved.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta	S	X			
Rizzuto		X			
Torchia Buss		X			
Tobia	M	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote		NV - Not Voting		Ab - Absent	

b. Ordinance 2026-13 - Amending Section 222-41 Speed Limits to Lower Speed Limits on Montrose Road

Mayor Viola requested a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto, and on a roll call vote, the ordinance was introduced by title. Public Hearing scheduled for August 12, 2026.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta		X			
Rizzuto	S	X			
Torchia Buss	M	X			
Tobia		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

c. Consent Agenda

All items listed on the "Consent Agenda" are considered routine by the Township and are adopted or approved collectively by a single motion and roll-call vote of a majority of the Township Committee. If discussion is desired on any item, it is considered separately.

A. Resolution 2026-129 - Accepting the Resignation of Township Employee Barbara Byrne
B. Resolution 2026-130 - Accepting the Resignation of Township Employee Jackeline Lara Cruz
C. Resolution 2026-131 - Authorizing and Approving Execution of an Employment Agreement - Chief Daniel DeVito
D. Resolution 2026-132 - Authorizing and Approving Execution of an Employment Agreement -- Lieutenant Morgan Savage
E. Resolution 2026-133 - Authorizing the Acceptance of a Donation of a Vehicle for Fire Company #1 from Holmdel Township
F. Resolution 2026-134 - Authorizing the Acceptance of a Donation of Park Improvements for Laird Road Park and Cedar Drive Park from the Colts Neck Sports Foundation
G. Resolution 2026-135 - Authorizing the Release of Performance Guarantee and Acceptance of Two-Year Maintenance Bond for Block 7.02, Lots 34.01 and 34.12
H. Resolution 2026-136 - Authorizing Execution of FAA Lease No. DTFAEN-16-L-00079
1. Resolution 2026-137 - Authorizing Property Owners of 7 Yearling Path to Enter Area of Township Conservation Easement to Replace Existing Fence
J. Resolution 2026-138 - Extending the Grace Period for Payment of Third Quarter Property Taxes
K. Resolution 2026-139- Authorizing Acceptance of Tree Donation

Mayor Viola asked for any comments or changes.

Committeeman Tobia inquired about two of the Consent Agenda resolutions.

Mayor Viola requested a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta, seconded by Committeewoman Buss, and on a roll call vote, the Consent Agenda was approved.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta	M	X			
Rizzuto		X			
Torchia Buss	S	X			
Tobia		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

d. Approval of Vouchers

Deputy Mayor Buzzetta provided an overview of the bills list and highlighted several items.

Mayor Viola requested a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto, and on a voice vote, the bills list was approved.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta	M	X			
Rizzuto	S	X			
Torchia Buss		X			
Tobia		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote		NV - Not Voting		Ab - Absent	

**Committeeman Tobia voted no on the bills for the affordable housing attorney and for the payments to residents of The Grande.*

**Committeewoman Buss abstained from any bills related to The Grande or the municipal court.*

**Committeeman Rizzuto abstained from any bills related to the Colts Neck Fire Department.*

**Mayor Viola abstained from any bills related to Best Horticultural, Jolene Landscaping, and Bucks Tree Service.*

e. Administrator's Report

Administrator Capristo provided a report that included thanks to all employees and first responders who assisted with the storm, special storm related brush collection, and thanks to the Sports Foundation.

f. Township Committee Reports

Committeeman Tobia provided a report that included the July Fourth event, thanks to the Sports Foundation, and an update regarding the Farmland Preservation Committee.

Committeewoman Buss provided a report from the Friends of the Library, the Long Range Planning Committee, Department of Public Works, and the Executive Fire Committee.

Committeeman Rizzuto provided a report from the Police Department, the Office of Emergency Management, and the Historic Preservation Committee.

Deputy Mayor Buzzetta provided a report that included affordable housing, NWS Earle change-of-command ceremony, Colts Neck High School graduation, and an update regarding the special planner.

Mayor Viola provided an update that included special brush pickup, the Recreation Department, the Colts Neck Business Association, high school graduation, NWS Earle, the open space tax, and an upcoming special meeting.

12. Comments from the Public

Lester Martin, resident, thanked volunteers and employees, commented on the use of artificial intelligence, the recent storms, the upcoming extra brush collection, and electric generators.

Elaine Mann, resident, suggested that the Township post first responder call numbers on the website every two weeks, asked that the Township post information about the use of generators by the public.

Dan Krysanekas, resident, thanked the Township Committee for approving the reduction in speed limit, requested a copy of the recent traffic study, requested an additional reduction of speed limits Township-wide, requested an update on the status of the left-hand turn lane on Bucks Mill Road and the right-hand turn lane on Route 537, inquired about the availability of speeding violation information, commented on affordable housing.

Lester Martin, resident, provided additional comments on electric generators, commented on the aquifer, commented on public information in general.

Dan Krysanekas, resident, inquired about the affordable housing attorney.

13. Adjournment

As there was no further business, Mayor Viola requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion from Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto, and on a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Brian O'Malley

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Brian O'Malley, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: September 9, 2026