

**Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee
February 3, 2026 Minutes**

Attendance:

**Representatives –Virginia Carlson, Karen Brown Bob O'Brien, Deb
Rodgers, Larry Clifton, Jerry Spanola, Ed Torres**

Alternates – JoAnn Ringwood, Marilyn Lago, Diane Steensen

**Brick Township – Mayor Lisa Crate
Councilwoman Lisa Reina
Amy Schmiedeberg, Senior Services
Ron Gaskill, Safety Insurance & Liability
Heather deJong, Meals on Wheels**

Guest: Bob Scott, Caregiver Volunteers

Mayor Crate:

January 25th Snowstorm – 48-hours prior to the storm, we met with our OEM, DPW, EMS, police, fire, our IT staff, our buildings and grounds team, our safety team, all the contractors involved and we reached out to the county for additional assistance. We had approximately 72 pieces of equipment from the contractors and 30+ pieces of equipment from the town working throughout the township for around 48 hours. Our snow trust fund was used for this storm, but; aside from the fund, there is a high probability that FEMA will reimburse us 75% of the cost since there was a State of Emergency issued.

Our trucks were out salting/sanding the roads beginning at midnight on Saturday. As mayor, I did everything that I could possibly do from the command center to get everything in place and ready for the storm. As it switched over to an ice storm, anything that was plowed prior, now had a 2" layer of ice so when the plows came back, it made it very difficult to plow. With the temperatures continuing to be below freezing, nothing has melted.

Even though we put all of the equipment in place, all of the manpower that we had available, all the contractors and all of the money into the storm, we do recognize that with 780 miles of road, 1700 streets there were some failures that need to be addressed. One of the ways we are going to address that is, we are bringing back retired Deputy Police Chief Steve Gerling. Steve has accepted a leadership role in the DPW. He served as Deputy Officer of Emergency Management and was Deputy Coordinator. He has decades of experience in managing major storm events including Hurricane Sandy. He will be responsible for snowstorms and other weather events that will impact our township. He will be working with all of our employees, outside contractors and will be inspecting our equipment.

Community Threads Store – Ribbon cutting celebration on Friday, 2/20/2026 at 4pm. 270 Chambers Bridge Road, Unit 11.

Recreation will be running their first bus trip in April to Turtle Back Zoo. For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 732.262.1044

Ron Gaskill:

As the Mayor said, 48 hours prior to the storm we had the OEM meeting with all the key players and discussed how we were going to handle it. Our workforce was split in half so that we were able to keep going. The storm lasted for hours and by law, our guys can only drive for 16 hours and then they have to stop. We had 72 pieces of equipment brought in from private contractors and the town has 34 plows of our own. The storm alone, as snow and ice were falling, went on for more than 24-hours. At the beginning of a storm, we take into consideration public safety, i.e. can we get police to you, ambulance to you, fire truck to you. Fire stations had members standing by in the firehouse and EMS was prepared. EMS has a truck that has a plow on it. During the storm we had 18 fire calls, 64 EMS calls, 9 motor vehicle accidents, 120 disabled vehicles and 9 road hazards, plows will divert to those areas to clear the way for the emergency vehicles.

We have 14 to 15 salting trucks and it takes about 6-7 hours to salt township roads. On Sunday morning around 6-7am, we switched over

to plows. We plow 1' away from the curb, we do not plow curb-to-curb and that's because if we hit a curb it's like a minor vehicle accident. It damages the equipment and it damages the curbing.

Fire Hydrant - Brick Township has an ordinance, see attached, that states if you have a fire hydrant on your property you are responsible for maintaining the area within a 3' radius of the perimeter.

Sidewalks – There is a Township ordinance, see attached, stating that residents are responsible for keeping their sidewalks clear of snow, ice, etc. (see attached). However, with all the ice and freezing rain we received, it makes it more difficult to fully clear the sidewalks.

We are able to provide alerts through social media, Nixle (cell phone), and CAD (computer aided dispatching system).

Amy Schmiedeberg:

Starting March 1st, we are going to allocate a second bus for dialysis.
Beat the Winter Blues Brunch – Tuesday, February 10th, 10:30am at the Terraces at Lakewood. Must call to register.

Healthy Heart month lunch & learn – Wednesday February 11th 11am. Must call to register.

Bunco – Tuesday February 17th 1pm. Must call to register

Captel Phone Presentation – Monday February 23rd 12pm

Bus Trip – To OCVTS for a touch of class lunch Thursday February 26th. Lunch at your own expense-cash only seating at 11am. Must call to register.

AARP tax appointments are full at most locations. There is a walk-in location at Monmouth County library in Wall offering free tax assistance on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 1pm-4pm, walk-ins only, 2700 Allaire Road, Wall Township.

Bob Scott:

Scams – Correct address is the #1 thing to know when it comes to a scam through email or text. If the address of the sender is not exactly what it should be. it is a scam. If they're asking you to respond immediately, it most likely is a scam. If someone is asking you for information through an email or text, delete it.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Marilyn Kaczka
Secretary**

Next Meeting:

Tuesday March 3rd at 11am

(Meeting will be held in the A/B Room)

§ 231-2 **Responsibility of owners.**

[Amended 3-14-1989 by Ord. No. 666-89]

The owner or owners of any real property in the Township upon which any fire hydrant is or shall be located shall maintain the area within a three-foot radius of the perimeter of any such fire hydrant free of snow or any weeds, shrubbery or other vegetation, as well as any fence, posts, poles or other structures which shall in any manner obstruct or hinder access to any such hydrant for purposes of fire protection.

§ 404-15Duty to remove.

A.

Each owner and tenant of land abutting or bordering upon the sidewalks of any streets or public places shall keep the sidewalks in front of his premises in a safe, passable and orderly condition, free from snow, ice, grass, weeds or other impediments. In case there is snow or ice on the sidewalks, such persons shall remove the same within 24 hours of daylight after the snow shall have ceased falling or after the ice has formed.