

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2025

5:00 P.M.

Mayor Jakubowski called the meeting to order.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: "Notice of this meeting has been provided in a legal notice published in the Courier Post and the Retrospect; and posted in accordance with Title 10 of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, specifying a 5:00 p.m. meeting time; and that formal action may or may not be taken at all Caucus and Commissioners meetings. Please be advised that this meeting is not being videotaped tonight."

Flag Salute/Exit Designations

Roll Call: Mayor Jakubowski, Commissioner Andrea Wendell, and Commissioner Alemi were in attendance.

Those additionally in attendance were Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk, RJ Callaway, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works, Police Chief Dave Bauer, Police Captain John Gaspari, Solicitor Jennifer McPeak, Borough Engineer Craig Reilly, OEM Coordinator Kurt Bicking, Brian Conte, EMS, Patrick Slemmer, Fire Chief, Eric Devoe, Megan Giordano, Tax Collector, Akiema Buchannan, Library Director.

Mayor Jakubowski made a motion to approve meeting minutes from May 6, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Wendell. All in favor-motioned carried.

Mayor Jakubowski made a motion to approve closed meeting minutes from May 6, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Wendell. All in favor-motion carried.

Commissioner Wendell made a motion to approve meeting minutes from May 20, 2025, seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor-motioned carried.

Commissioner Wendell made a motion to approve meeting closed minutes from May 20, 2025, seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor-motioned carried.

ORDINANCES FOR ACTION:

2025-04 Ordinance of the Borough of Audubon, County of Camden and State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 62, Traffic and Vehicles, in the code of the Borough of Audubon On-Street Handicapped Parking – Block 96, Lot 5 – 39 Oswego Ave. First Reading/Introduction was June 3, 2025; Second Reading/Public Hearing July 1, 2025. The foregoing motion to introduce was made by Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski.

2025-05 Ordinance of the Borough of Audubon, County of Camden and State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 62, Traffic and Vehicles, in the code of the Borough of Audubon On-Street Handicapped Parking – Block 38, Lot 14 – 148 E. Pine St. First Reading/Introduction was June 3, 2025; Second Reading/Public Hearing July 1, 2025. The foregoing motion to introduce was made by Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:

2025-109 Appointing Marjory McGuckin to be the Municipal Coordinator on Aging for a Term of One Year. The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Mayor Jakubowski and seconded by Commissioner Wendell. All in favor motion carried.

2025-110 Resolution of the Borough of Audubon Approving the Liquor License Renewal for Apple New Jersey, LLC The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor motion carried.

2025-111 Resolution of the Borough of Audubon Approving the Liquor License Renewal for The Kove Banquet Inc. The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor motion carried.

2025-112 Resolution of the Borough of Audubon Approving the Liquor License Renewal for SRI PRIYA LLC, Inc. The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor motion carried.

2025-113 Resolution of the Borough of Audubon Approving the Liquor License Renewal WV Audubon Ventures. The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor motion carried.

2025 -114 Authorizing the Appointment of Tyler J. Goins as Probationary Police Officer for the Borough of Audubon effective July 7, 2025. The foregoing motion was approved by motion of Mayor Jakubowski and seconded by Commissioner Wendell. Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

Department Reports:

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works – Report submitted. Memorial Day ceremony went well. Normal day-to-day operations are going smoothly. Working on Independence Day celebrations. New playground equipment was installed at Audubon Family Park. New bench was installed at Memorial Grove and working on the Audubon Historical Museum. Our summer help has started, and we still have one more open spot.

Chief Finance Officer – Absent. No report.

Borough Clerk – The Primary election is June 10, 2025. Will start the process to move all the polling places to the FJW Rec & Com Center for the 2026 year. Early voting starts today and runs through June 8. Any questions about early voting, please reach out to me.

Tax Collector – Report submitted. Everything is moving semi-okay without Linda. Margaret and Vickie are there full-time holding down the fort. Hopefully, we will get a new tax rate soon and then we will be able to start preparing the tax bills to go out.

Tax Assessor – Nothing to report. Attempting to enter the meeting, but there were technology issues. Sent an email thanking the Mayor and Commissioners for the honor to work with the Borough of Audubon.

Police Chief - Report submitted. May was very uneventful. We had a significant house fire that displaced two different households and is still under investigation. There was a Bike Rodeo. Lt. Gorman did a great job and there was a lot of great feedback and a great turn out. Hope to repeat it in the future. We did have a hit and run on the 21st. There was a lot of chatter on Facebook about it. The individual was located and identified later. He will be held accountable. It was a concerning incident, and no one was injured which is fortunate.

Fire Chief – Report submitted. Preparing for July 5 festivities. The significant event was the house fire on the two hundred block of Walnut. Our guys did a great job of preventing any further damage to the other house as it was a twin. There was no damage to surrounding properties. Our guys very much put their training in play that day. Per Mayor Jakubowski, please extend our gratitude to the members of our volunteer fire department and all those that shared mutual aid that day. Chief stated that letters did go out.

OEM – Report submitted. We were able to help the family with the house fire receive assistance from the Red Cross. As far as July 4 events, I will reach out to the Police Chief later this week to see if what steps we need to take for fireworks this year.

EMS – Report submitted. Audubon 114 calls with a total of 215 calls for the month.

Municipal Court Administrator – Excused. Reports submitted.

Construction Code/Zoning Report - Reports submitted.

Engineer – Submitted written report. Highlights include the following. DOT has announced their application is open for the FY2026 Municipal Aid Application is due July 1. We will need a resolution at the next meeting. We already have S. Davis and S. Logan with our last application that will carry over. I will work with RJ to see if there are other roads we can put onto that. We usually ask for over a million dollars in road work and we usually get between \$200-250 thousand. We just bulk it up and try to get lucky. The governor announced that this program will have cuts this year. The CDBG Senior Center improvements projected will go out to bid this week and the bid opening will be July 3. The playground at the Audubon Family Park has been installed.

Mayor asked about the Open Space applications. To date, we have not seen those applications.

Solicitor – Nothing to report. Items for closed session.

Library – Report submitted. Monthly calendar is on the website and social media. Summer Reading kicks off is Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 3:00 pm. We will have free ice cream from Mister Softee and there will be tie-dyeing bandanas. The town goal for reading this year is 5,000 which includes readers of all ages. We will be doing the competition with the surrounding towns like last year and hope to exceed our town goal like last year as well. Every Wednesday at 3:00 pm we will have programs for all ages. Programs include miniature golf in the library, a shark party, and a visit of live animals. Senior programming every other Tuesday in July and August at 1:00 pm in the library. July 8 and August 5 will be senior games and July 22, and August 19 will be senior crafts. We will also offer tech help for seniors for iPads or phones or anything else tech related.

FJW Recreation & Community Center - YMCA registration is open. Details are on our website and social media. Camp runs June 23 through August 29. May – 6 private parties. For June we have scheduled eight private parties and our Primary Election.

Sustainable Audubon – Report submitted. Looking for sponsors for their trees. There are twenty-six residents on their waiting list. They just finished cleaning the gardens at Audubon Family Park and the Lions Club on Merchant Street. They continue to maintain those gardens throughout the year. Another Trex bench was received. The last one went to the AHS high school garden. Still working on the energy efficiency plan with PSEG. If anyone wants to have an efficiency evaluation completed, you could qualify for a \$20.00 gift card from Desserts by Design or Audubon Hardware.

Board of Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Wendell – Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome over the last two weeks. I really appreciate the hard work and dedication that goes into keeping this town so amazing and running smoothly every day. I am the new liaison for the Audubon Civic REACH. There are so many good events coming up. They will be working on an Oktoberfest, and I hope to assist them to make them all a success for our residents. Thank you again. It has been a fun two weeks.

Commissioner Alemi – Thank you to everyone. I look forward to learning a lot more about the finances of the Borough.

Mayor Jakubowski – The Bike Rodeo was outstanding. Jim Blumenstein, former member of the school board, was the brainchild for this. The turnout was tremendous, and this is a step toward getting a grant for safe streets to school. Chief Bauer stated that he received great feedback as well. Cooper Hospital gave out free bike helmets. The park equipment is available now for everyone to use. There will be a formal ribbon cutting on June 24 if anyone wants to join us. In talking to families and the need, we finally found a way for the bathrooms outside to be open from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm for the residents to use daily. We only ask that people please take care of the bathrooms. If you see any issues, please say something. We want them to be available to everyone. Also, it is Pride Month, and it is great to be able to talk about pride at these meetings. Once again, Barrington and Audubon have partnered on an event. It will be this Thursday, June 5, at The Kove at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Sadly, it is conflicting with Haddon Township's parade, but there may still be people that come to ours. We appreciate Mayor Hansen's leadership on that. We also have a pride event at Peak Secondhand on Merchant Street in Audubon on June 14. It is a fashion show, and I will be participating as a model. I encourage everyone to come out.

Open Session: Commissioner Wendell made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor; motion carried.

No one from the public was in attendance.

Commissioner Wendell made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor motion carried.

Resolution 2025-115 to go into Closed Session for matters of Municipal Liquor Licenses & Policy

Discussion. The foregoing motion was made by Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Mayor Jakubowski was made at 5:41 pm.

Motion was made to come out of closed session by Commissioner Wendell and seconded by Commissioner Alemi. All in favor motion carried.

There is no one waiting in the waiting room.

Commissioner Alemi made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Wendell. All in favor motion carried.

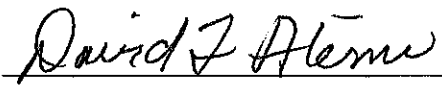
Meeting Adjourned at 6:09 pm.



Robert Jakubowski, Mayor

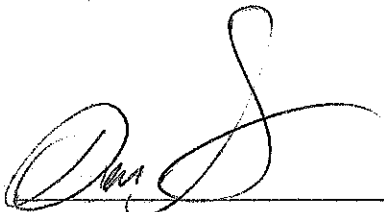


Andrea Wendell, Commissioner



David F. Alemi, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk



Date