

October 29, 2025

Minutes of the special public meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen held on October 29, 2025. This meeting was virtual only.

Mayor Cilento called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Municipal Clerk Lauren Staats read the Sunshine Statement and called the Roll.

Present: Mayor Jason F. Cilento, Council President Daniel Cole Sigmon, Teresa Albertson, Crisol-Iris Lantz, Trina Rios, William Scott, and Elizabeth VanDermark.

Absent: None

Municipal Clerk Lauren Staats and Municipal Attorney William Robertson were also present.

Presentations

1. HIF Health Benefits- By Joseph Ablahani, Capital Health Benefits

To see the full presentation, click on the link (4:12 - 23:00)

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/ccVILowMVIY?si=vMHjkEa2F11152Rj>

Mayor Cilento: Stated that this presentation is on the Borough leaving the state benefits health plan after many years of increases. Joseph is here to talk to everyone tonight about joining a HIF.

Mayor Cilento: (10:40) Stated the \$300,000 savings is not that now we have that in our budget. That is the decrease in what the increase would have been. There is still an increase just not the 36 percent increase just a 16 percent increase.

Mr. Miller: (15:10) Stated that he would like Joe to explain once we are in the HIF we stay in the HIF even if our claims go up they don't kick you out. Asked Joe what our increase in benefits has been in the last 4 years and Joe gave the dollar amount.

Mayor Cilento: Asked Joe for the reasoning behind this and why we had to have a special meeting and Joe stated that there is a tight timeframe on the process if we wanted to start with the new benefits January 1, 2026. Joe met with union representation to make sure they were ok with proposed benefits. Thanked Joe and Alex for their great work.

Resolutions (368-371)

On the motion of Mrs. Rios and seconded by Mr. Sigmon it was moved to accept the following:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN TO JOIN THE NJ SOLUTIONS JOINT HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund, hereafter referred to as the “Fund”, as permitted by N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1 et. seq., and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Fund was approved to become operational by the Department of Banking and Insurance and the Department of Community Affairs (collectively, the “Departments”) and has been operational since that date; and

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund in the State of New Jersey contain certain restrictions and safeguards in connection with the administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Fund; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of Dunellen, hereinafter referred to as “Local Unit” has studied the feasibility of joining the Fund and has determined that membership in the Fund is in the best interest of the Local Unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit hereby agrees and authorizes the following:

- i. Execution of the application for membership to the Fund, including any and all documents and/or certifications as may be necessary, in order for the Local Unit to complete the application process and join the Fund.
- ii. The Local Unit shall become a member of the Fund for an initial period outlined in the Local Unit’s Indemnity and Trust Agreement, subject to the approval of the Fund Commissioners, which in no event shall exceed three (3) years as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).
- iii. The Local Unit shall participate in the following type(s) of coverage(s) offered by the Fund: Health Insurance and/or Prescription Insurance and/or Dental Insurance and/or Medicare Advantage/Employer Group Waiver Program as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the Fund’s Bylaws, and Plan of Risk Management.
- iv. Adoption and approval of the Fund’s Bylaws, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment A, which has been approved by the Departments.
- v. Execution of the Local Unit’s Indemnity and Trust Agreement, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment B, which has been approved by the Departments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit certifies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a), that the Local Unit has never defaulted on claims under a

self-insured plan and that it has not had its insurance canceled for nonpayment of premium for a period of at least two (2) years prior to this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Fund as required by the Fund's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the Fund's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon acceptance of the Fund's By-laws as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Yes: Albertson, Lantz, Rios, Scott, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

10-29-2025: # 369

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TERMINATION OF BOROUGH MEMBERSHIP IN
STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN**

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund, hereafter referred to as the "Fund", as permitted by N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Fund was approved to become operational by the Department of Banking and Insurance and the Department of Community Affairs (collectively, the "Departments") and has been operational since that date; and

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund in the State of New Jersey contain certain restrictions and safeguards in connection with the administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Fund;

WHEREAS, Borough Council has studied the feasibility of joining the Fund, has determined that membership in the Fund is in the best interest of the Borough of Dunellen, and by Resolution on this date has authorized joining the Fund effective on January 1, 2026;

WHEREAS, membership in the Fund will require the Borough to withdraw from its existing membership in the State Health Benefits Plan ("SHBP");

WHEREAS, withdrawal from the SHBP requires Borough Council adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Borough of Dunellen, SHBP/SHEBP Employer Location Number 025700, hereby resolves to terminate its participation in the Program (Medical Plan, Prescription Drug Plan, and/or Dental Plan coverage) thereby canceling coverage provided by the SHBP and/or SEHBP (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq.) for all its active and retired employees.
2. We shall notify all active employees of the date of their termination of coverage under the Program.
3. We understand that the New Jersey Division of Pensions & Benefits (NJDPB)

will notify retired employees of the cancellation of their coverage.

4. We understand that all COBRA participants will be notified by the NJDPB and advised to contact our office concerning a possible alternative health, prescription drug, and dental insurance plan.
5. We understand that this resolution shall take effect the first of the month following a 60-day period beginning with the receipt of the resolution by the State Health Benefits Commission or School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

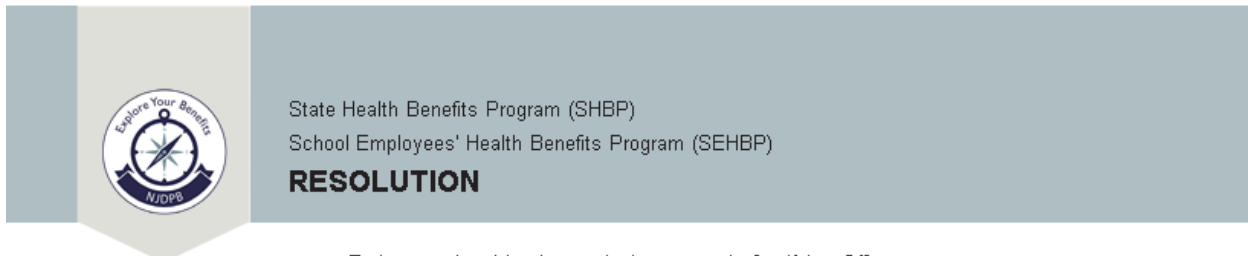
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the intent of this Resolution is that termination of Borough membership in the SHBP be effective September 1, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Administrator and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to take all such additional steps as needed to effectuate the timely termination of SHBP membership and seamless transition to the Fund, including execution of the attached "RESOLUTION" document certifying the adoption of the above resolution.

I, Alex Miller, Business Administrator of the Borough of Dunellen, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly authorized by the Borough Council on this 29th Day of October 2025.

Yes: Albertson, Lantz, Rios, Scott, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mrs. Albertson and seconded by Mr. Scott it was moved to accept the following:



To be completed by the employing agency's Certifying Officer.

10-29-2025: # 370

**RESOLUTION TO TERMINATE ALL PARTICIPATION UNDER THE SHBP AND SEHBP
(INCLUDING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN AND/OR DENTAL PLAN COVERAGE).**

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Borough of Dunellen,
202570

Employer Location Number

Corporate Name of Employer

SHBP/SEHBP

hereby resolves to terminate its participation in the Program (Medical Plan, Prescription Drug Plan, and/or Dental Plan coverage) thereby canceling coverage provided by the SHBP and/or SEHBP (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq.) for all its active and retired employees.

2. We shall notify all active employees of the date of their termination of coverage under the

Program.

3. We understand that the New Jersey Division of Pensions & Benefits (NJDPB) will notify retired employees of the cancellation of their coverage.

4. We understand that all COBRA participants will be notified by the NJDPB and advised to contact our office concerning a possible alternative health, prescription drug, and dental insurance plan.

5. We understand that this resolution shall take effect the first of the month following a 60-day period beginning with the receipt of the resolution by the State Health Benefits Commission or School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the:

Borough of Dunellen
(732) 968-3033

Corporate Name of Employer

Phone Number

355 North Avenue
Jersey 08812

Street Address

Dunellen

City

Zip Code

New

State

amiller@dunellenborough.com

Print Name

Borough Administrator

*Official Title
Email Address*

10 /29 /2025

Signature

Date

28

Number of Employees

22-6001756

Employer's State Employer Identification Number (EIN)

Yes: Albertson, Lantz, Rios, Scott, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Albertson it was moved to accept the following:

10-29-2025: # 371

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DELI CREAM FOR A FOOD HANDLING LICENSE
FOR THE 2025-2026 LICENSING YEAR**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue a food handling license to Deli Cream for the 2025-2026 licensing year as they have met the requirements and paid the proper fee.

Deli Cream, 387 North Avenue

Yes: Albertson, Lantz, Rios, Scott, Sigmon and VanDermark

Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Adjournment

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the following:

10-29-2025: # 372

RESOLUTION OF ADJOURNMENT

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

The Dunellen Borough Council Special Meeting of October 29, 2025 is adjourned.

Yes: Albertson, Lantz, Rios, Scott, Sigmon, and VanDermark

Meeting Ended: 7:27 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/ccVlOwMVIY?si=oYdcRQ38kh29YlRk>

Lauren Staats

Lauren Staats, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Minutes Approved: November 3, 2025