



**WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 27, 2026**

**CALL TO
ORDER**

Mayor Badey called the meeting to order at 11:00 am

**SALUTE THE
FLAG**

**SUNSHINE
STATEMENT**

Municipal Clerk read the Sunshine Statement

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was given by way of emailing to the Courier Post and The Retrospect and posted in Borough Hall on **January 27, 2026.**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor George Badey
Councilman Dave Alexander
Councilman George Ehrmann
Councilman Thomas Leakan
Councilman Nick Loberto
Councilman Larry Sefchick
Valerie Ciminera, CMFO
Michele Miller, RMC, CMR, Borough Administrator & Borough Clerk

ABSENT

Councilwoman Barbara Kane

RESOLUTIONS

- 2026:54 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Authorizing the Payment of Bills
- 2026:55 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Transferring Line Item Appropriations in the Year 2025 Budget
- 2026:56 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Transferring Appropriation Reserves in the Year 2024 Budget
- 2026:57 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Authorizing to Enter into a Contract for Private Court Debt Collections

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- 2026:58 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Authorizing the Use of the Three-Year Average Alternative Calculation for the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes
- 2026:59 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Deferring School Taxes
- 2026:60 Resolution of the Borough of Somerdale Authorizing the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, in the Amount of \$17,545.00 Under the 2026 Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program, Subaward Grant Number 26-0431 and Authorizing Mayor and Chief of Police to Execute and the Borough Clerk, to Attest to Subgrant Award, Any and All Documents in Connection with this Grant

Badey explained the resolutions on the agenda

Motion-Sefchick, Second-Ehrmann. Alexander-yes, Ehrmann-yes, Leakan-yes, Loberto-yes, Sefchick-yes.

DISCUSSION

- Ciminera 2026 Municipal Budget-software for construction has changed which caused an increase in that department; police had minimal increase; fire department-asked for member uniform request-they are seeking an 11% increase this year in their budget
- Sefchick this has been the biggest year of an increase and give that I can remember, we have to be able to provide to them; we are also giving the Chief a salary now
- Miller Valerie and I met with Chief Barkoff regarding his budget; we spoke with Larry (Sefchick) prior to the meeting, about the request for member uniforms; I recommended that we offer them boots, as this may be something that they can use for training, and while they are at the hall for various things-not everyone is blue collar and has boots, or they can get new ones through us; the Chief wasn't really feeling that, as he is looking for jackets and shirts for the crew; much like when we offered to have Dave Marx help with reports, I thought this was a good idea but was not what he is looking for

Discussion was had regarding this request

- Badey am I hearing that we are going to give them boots
- Sefchick its either boots or nothing
- Consensus all agree to boots or nothing for the fire department
- Badey we have had some discussions about bringing someone in to review our equipment

Discussion was had regarding consultants in various fields of equipment efficiency for several of the departments

- Consensus all agree to get a price
- Ciminera Magnolia Ambulance-they are proposing \$35,000 and we are proposing \$24,000; public works has classes for the Assistant plugged in to the budget; garbage and

trash-hoping maintenance will go down but am budgeting \$20,000 in maintenance since that is what we spent last year and we now have more trucks; personnel-police are looking to promote someone when Jake Rulli retires, then hire a special at 30 hours per week which is just replacing; capital-police have asked for two cars

Discussion was had regarding the purchasing of vehicles

- Ciminera public works has asked for two new vehicles, new lawn mower, new fuel pump; buildings and grounds-put in \$50,000 at the Reserve at Grace for repairs, repairs for borough hall, new chairs, public works needs a new roof, ambulance requested \$40,000 for purchase of new van, which they asked for last year
- Miller when our fuel pump system is down, we will be in a shared service with Voorhees for us to get fuel from them; this would include DPW vehicles, PD, and fire; I will reach out to Ambulance and they can get fuel from Magnolia during that time; Hi-Nella is not included in this agreement with Voorhees
- Sefchick how many towns are contributing to the ambulance
- Badey only Magnolia, Somerdale, Lawnside and Stratford contribute something; Councilman DePrince advised me that they are putting in for a grant which will cut the cost to half
- Consensus all are okay with these budget suggestions
- Ciminera Cypress and Gloucester application; recreation-SBSA field improvements; \$866,000 for capital improvements, like to keep it under \$1 million dollars for bond; \$267,000 increase from last year, using 54% of our surplus this year, would like to keep more money in our reserve, 7.5 cent increase of \$100 on average household, last year was 3 cent increase, bond rating decreased which cost us more money in interest and it was because we didn't have a good surplus and these numbers are subject to change; our tax collection rate was the lowest it has been in 5 years which triggered the earlier resolution on today's agenda to use the average which is a penny and a half

GOOD OF
THE ORDER

Council had nothing to report at this time

GOOD &
WELFARE

Per Resolution 2026:15, those addressing the Governing Body shall be limited to five minutes during Good of the Order

OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC

12:41 pm

No comments or questions from the Public

Motion-Ehrmann, Second-Sefchick. All reply Aye in favor to Close to the Public

CLOSED TO
THE PUBLIC

12:41 pm

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ADJOURN

Badey need a motion to Adjourn

 Motion-Loberto, Second-Sefchick. All Reply Aye in favor to Adjourn at 12:42 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,

Michele D. Miller, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk