



*The Borough of Sayreville*  
*Municipal Clerk's Office*

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Sayreville, NJ 08872  
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July 16, 2024

Hon. Nancy Pinkin  
Middlesex County Clerk  
75 Bayard Street  
P.O. Box 1110  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Re: Non-Binding Referendum – November 5, 2024

Dear Hon. Pinkin:

Enclosed is a certified copy of a Resolution adopted at the July 15, 2024 meeting which authorizes a Non-Binding Referendum be placed on the official ballot for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if there is any additional information that may be necessary to place this on the ballot. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

*Jessica Morelos*  
Jessica Morelos, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

JM/

enc.

cc: Mayor & Council  
Borough Attorney  
Business Administrator

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**RESOLUTION #2024-191**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC REFERENDUM TO DETERMINE IF THE  
BOROUGH SHALL COMPLETE CAPITAL REPAIRS TO THE 1909 TOWN  
HALL/FIRE HOUSE AT 165 MAIN STREET AS NECESSARY TO REMEDIATE  
STRUCTURAL DEFICIENCIES AND MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**WHEREAS**, the Sayreville Historical Society has prepared a report regarding the significance of the 1909 Town Hall/Fire House at 165 Main Street (the "Fire House"), and has further requested that the Fire House be considered an historic landmark that is preserved by the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2024, the Borough Council failed to adopt Resolution #2024-84, which called for the governing body "recogniz[ing] the historical importance of the [Fire House] and support[ing] the Sayreville Historical Society's efforts to preserve this part of Sayreville's history; and

**WHEREAS**, on the record at said meeting, certain Borough Councilmembers expressed concerns about the potential capital costs associated with the proposed preservation of the Fire House; and

**WHEREAS**, at the request of the Borough Council, the Borough Engineer has completed a review and estimates that it would cost at least \$3 million dollars to remediate structural deficiencies and mitigate environmental issues; and

**WHEREAS**, given the unique history of the Fire House, the governing body seeks to initiate a referendum to obtain the public sentiment on whether to preserve the Fire House and assume the costs to complete same; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:37-1 et seq., the governing body is authorized by resolution to order a public referendum to obtain the sentiment of voters, with N.J.S.A. 19:37-1 specifically providing:

When the governing body of any municipality or of any county desires to ascertain the sentiment of the legal voters of the municipality or county upon any question or policy pertaining to the government or internal affairs thereof, and there is no other statute by which the sentiment can be ascertained by the submission of such question to a vote of the electors in the municipality or county at any election to be held therein, the governing body may adopt at any regular meeting an ordinance or a resolution requesting the clerk of the county to print upon the official ballots to be used at the next ensuing general election a certain proposition to be formulated and expressed in the ordinance or resolution in concise form. Such request shall be filed with the clerk of the county not later than 88 days previous to the election.

; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:37-4 further provides that "[s]uch result shall not bind the governing body from which the ordinance or resolution emanated, nor be taken

or construed as other than an expression of sentiment by the voters, to be followed or disregarded by the governing body in its discretion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sayreville, as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated as if set forth at length.
2. The governing body does hereby request that the following referendum question be placed on the November 2024 general election ballot:

**REFERENDUM**

Should the Borough of Sayreville seek to preserve the 1909 Town Hall/Fire House located at 165 Main Street and expend the costs necessary to remediate structural deficiencies and mitigate environmental issues at an estimated cost of \$ 3 million dollars?

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The Borough Council has authorized this ballot question to obtain the public sentiment of voters.

A "yes" vote would indicate support for the Borough preserving the 1909 Town Hall/Fire House located at 165 Main Street and spending the funds necessary remediate structural deficiencies and mitigate environmental issues at an estimated cost of \$3 million dollars.

A "no" vote would indicate opposition to preserving the 1909 Town Hall/Fire House located at 165 Main Street and/or spending the funds necessary to remediate structural deficiencies and mitigate environmental issues at an estimated cost of \$3 million dollars.

3. The Borough Clerk shall transmit a true certified copy of this Resolution to the Middlesex County Clerk to effectuate the request that the foregoing referendum question be placed on the November 2024 general election ballot.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

/s/ Donna Roberts, Councilwoman  
(Admin. & Finance Committee)

Reviewed by the Borough Attorney and is approved as to form and the Resolution satisfies all of the legal requirements for the Mayor's signature.

/s/ Matthew Moench, Esq., Borough Attorney

**ATTEST:**

**BOROUGH OF SAYREVILLE**

/s/ Jessica Morelos, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

/s/ Kennedy O'Brien  
Mayor

|         | Balka | Colaci | Onuoha | Roberts | Synarski | Zebrowski |
|---------|-------|--------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|
| Ayes    |       | X      |        | X       | X        | X         |
| Nays    | X     |        | X      |         |          |           |
| Abstain |       |        |        |         |          |           |
| Absent  |       |        |        |         |          |           |

I, Jessica Morelos, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Sayreville do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.

Jessica Morelos  
Municipal Clerk