
From: Brenda Eagle <brendaeagle716@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 11:30 AM
To: MayorJoshi; Patel, Nishith; Shmuel, Asaf; Harris, Margot; Brescher, Richard; Poyner, John; jcoyle@edisonnj.gov; apatil@edisonnj.gov
Subject: Re: Town Council Meetings - Public Speaking Time

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Edison Township organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Joshi,

I am writing to follow up on my email sent on September 10th regarding the proposal by Town Council members to limit public participation in Town Council meetings.

I am disappointed that my previous emails have not been acknowledged. The lack of responsiveness from the office to residents' concerns is deeply concerning.

Furthermore, the recent conduct of Town Council meetings has been increasingly unprofessional. Such behavior is disrespectful to taxpayers and undermines the democratic process. There are other ways to hold productive meetings without limiting the residents as opposed to the bad actors. Given the large population of our town, the council has a responsibility to ensure that all attendees are given a fair opportunity to be heard. The constant low turnout is a red flag, indicating a potential lack of engagement from the broader community you serve.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed limitations on public participation and to commit to fostering open and transparent communication with the community.

I would be grateful for your perspective on this issue and hope for a timely response.

Regards,

Brenda Eagle

Edison Tax Payer

On Mon, Sep 23, 2024 at 11:35 AM Brenda Eagle <brendaeagle716@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Joshi,

I am writing to follow up on my email sent on September 10th regarding the proposal by Town Council members to limit public participation in Town Council meetings.

I would be grateful for your perspective on this proposal. Your insights on this issue is appreciated since the topic is on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Brenda Eagle

Clara Barton Resident

On Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 9:52 AM Brenda Eagle <brendaeagle716@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Joshi,

I would like to express my disappointment with the recent town council meeting. As a concerned citizen, I believe that these meetings should be platforms for open dialogue, transparency, and accountability. Proposing to limit public participation hinders meaningful public participation and engagement. . I urge you to encourage the council members to reconsider this decision and explore alternative methods to ensure that meetings run smoothly while still allowing ample time for public discourse. Council members should reconsider their approach and prioritize the needs and concerns of the community. It is essential that our elected officials create a welcoming and inclusive environment for ALL residents to participate in the democratic process.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Kindly confirm receipt of this email.

Regards,
Brenda Eagle
Clara Barton Resident

From: Shmuel, Asaf </O=EDISONTWP/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F2EB7762A7904A47AE7FD281D8AF24D2-SHMUEL, ASAF>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:22 PM
To: Jamie Davis
Subject: RE: Edison Township City Council Meetings
Attachments: image001.png

See link below for council meeting schedule. It is also on line on the Edison website.

<https://cms2.revize.com/revize/edisonnj/Departments/Council/2024%20Council%20Meeting%20Schedule.pdf>

Thank you,



Asaf Shmuel
Council Member
Township of Edison
P: 732-248-7350
E: ashmuel@edisonnj.gov

From: Jamie Davis <jamie.davis3352@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 1:00 PM
To: Shmuel, Asaf <AShmuel@edisonnj.gov>
Subject: Edison Township City Council Meetings

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Hello!

I was wondering if you could share the date and location of the next Edison Township City Council meeting with me. I am interested in getting more involved with the community, but I had a hard time finding this information online.

Thanks,
Jamie Davis
She/Her

Warning:

Email received by or sent to Township officials is subject to the Open Public Records Act [OPRA]. This means that absent some specific privilege, all such communications are considered a public record and are subject to publication and/or dissemination to the public upon request.

From: Jamie Davis <jamie.davis3352@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 1:00 PM
To: ashmuel@edisonnj.gov
Subject: Edison Township City Council Meetings

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Hello!

I was wondering if you could share the date and location of the next Edison Township City Council meeting with me. I am interested in getting more involved with the community, but I had a hard time finding this information online.

Thanks,
Jamie Davis
She/Her

From: Harris, Margot </O=EDISONTWP/OU=EXTERNAL (FYDIBOHF25SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=922B4098E3794180943AA100327C1A17>
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Michele & Joel Bassoff
Cc: Patel, Nishith; Patil, Ajay; Brescher, Richard; Poyner, John; Coyle, Joseph; Shmuel, Asaf; Michael R. Burns; Michael R. Burns
Subject: Re: Recent violations of Open Public Meetings Act

Joel, you are absolutely correct. And I have to take responsibility since I was presiding over the meeting. It wasn't on my cheat sheet, so I screwed up. Assurances going forward word that we will do this according to Hoyle next time!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 11, 2024, at 11:10 AM, Michele & Joel Bassoff <jbassoff@verizon.net> wrote:

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FYI - your recent closed sessions didn't comply with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

N.J.S. §10:4-13 requires that, before you go into closed session, you have to adopt a resolution that states:

- a) the general nature of the subject to be discussed; and
- b) the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted in closed session can be publicly disclosed.

It's not sufficient to simply move to go into closed session. You've got to say why (e.g.: litigation? contracts? personnel? purchase of property?)

The relevant sections of the OPMA are attached.

Joel Bassoff
<Open Public Meetings Act - closed meetings.pdf>

From: Michele & Joel Bassoff <jbassoff@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 11:10 AM
To: Nishith Patel; Margot Harris; Ajay Patil; Richard Brescher; jpoyner@edisonnj.gov; Joseph Coyle; Asaf Shmuel; Michael R. Burns
Cc: Michael R. Burns
Subject: Recent violations of Open Public Meetings Act
Attachments: Open Public Meetings Act - closed meetings.pdf

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FYI - your recent closed sessions didn't comply with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

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It's not sufficient to simply move to go into closed session. You've got to say why (e.g.: litigation? contracts? personnel? purchase of property?)

The relevant sections of the OPMA are attached.

Joel Bassoff

From: Harris, Margot </O=EDISONTWP/OU=EXTERNAL (FYDIBOHF25SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=922B4098E3794180943AA100327C1A17>
Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 3:45 PM
To: Rainone, Lou (External)
Cc: Michael Burns; Michael R. Burns; Rainone, Lou; Poyner, John; Shmuel, Asaf; Patel, Nishith
Subject: Re: Masks at meetings

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 1, 2024, at 3:32 PM, Lou Rainone <LRainone@njrcmlaw.com> wrote:

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[REDACTED]

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From: Harris, Margot <MHarris@edisonnj.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 2:14:13 PM
To: Lou Rainone <LRainone@njrcmlaw.com>
Cc: Michael Burns <mburns@njrcmlaw.com>; Michael R. Burns <mburns@edisonnj.gov>; Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Poyner, John <JPoyner@edisonnj.gov>; Shmuel, Asaf <AShmuel@edisonnj.gov>; Patel, Nishith <NPatel@edisonnj.gov>
Subject: Re: Masks at meetings

CAUTION: Rainone, Coughlin, Minchello: This email originated from outside of our Law Firm. Do not trust this email's sender, links or open attachments unless you verify the sender independently of this email and know the content is safe. If you have any questions, please call our Technology Department

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 1, 2024, at 1:58 PM, Lou Rainone <LRainone@njrcmlaw.com> wrote:

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From: Harris, Margot <MHarris@edisonnj.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 1:44:30 PM
To: Michael Burns <mburns@njrcmlaw.com>; Michael R. Burns <mburns@edisonnj.gov>
Cc: Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Poyner, John <JPoyner@edisonnj.gov>; Shmuel, Asaf <AShmuel@edisonnj.gov>; Patel, Nishith <NPatel@edisonnj.gov>
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Good afternoon, Michael -

Best regards,

Margot Harris
Council Vice President
Township Council | Township of Edison
E: mharris@edisonnj.gov

Links contained in this email have been replaced. If you click on a link in the email above, the link will be analyzed for known threats. If a known threat is found, you will not be able to proceed to the destination. If suspicious content is detected, you will see a warning.

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From: Harris, Margot <MHarris@edisonnj.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 1:44:30 PM

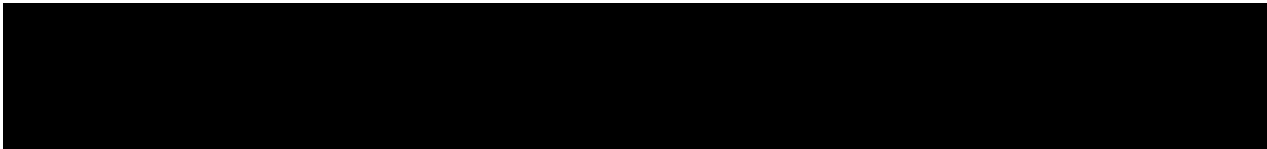
To: Michael Burns <mburns@njrcmlaw.com>; Michael R. Burns <mburns@edisonnj.gov>

Cc: Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Poyner, John <JPoyner@edisonnj.gov>; Shmuel, Asaf <AShmuel@edisonnj.gov>; Patel, Nishith <NPatel@edisonnj.gov>

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Township Council | Township of Edison
E: mharris@edisonnj.gov

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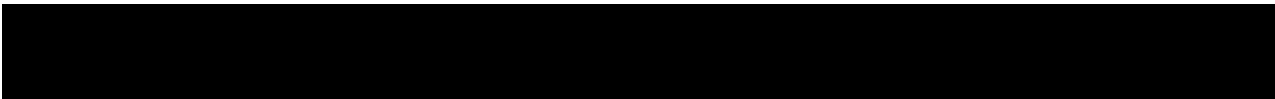
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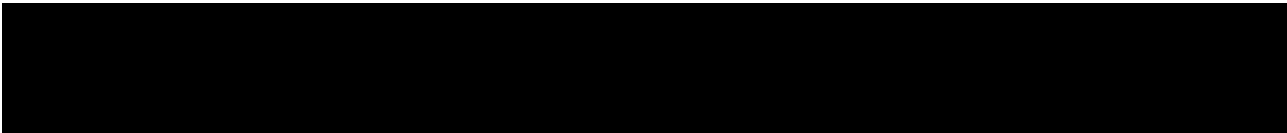


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Township Council | Township of Edison
E: mharris@edisonnj.gov

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Cc: Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Rainone, Lou <LRainone@edisonnj.gov>; Poyner, John <JPoyner@edisonnj.gov>; Shmuel, Asaf <AShmuel@edisonnj.gov>; Patel, Nishith <NPatel@edisonnj.gov>
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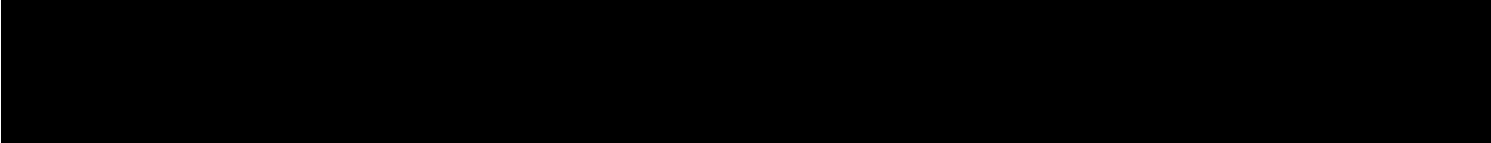
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Margot Harris
Council Vice President
Township Council | Township of Edison
E: mharris@edisonnj.gov

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Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 1:45 PM
To: 'Michael Burns'; Michael R. Burns
Cc: Rainone, Lou; Rainone, Lou; Poyner, John; Shmuel, Asaf; Patel, Nishith
Subject: Masks at meetings

Good afternoon, Michael -



Best regards,

Margot Harris
Council Vice President
Township Council | Township of Edison
E: mharris@edisonnj.gov

From: Steven Wronko <wronko@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 3:03 PM
To: EDISON POLICE OPRA <policeopra@edisonpd.org>; Clerk Edison; npatel@edisonnj.gov
Cc: mharris@edisonnj.gov; rbrescher@edisonnj.gov; jcoyle@edisonnj.gov; apatil@edisonnj.gov; jpoyner@edisonnj.gov; ashmuel@edisonnj.gov
Subject: Mask mandate at council meetings

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Edison Township organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Edison Town Council
100 Municipal Boulevard
Edison, NJ 08817

Dear Members of the Edison Town Council,

I am writing to formally demand that the Edison Town Council immediately cease and desist from enforcing the policy that requires members of the public to remove their masks while speaking at public meetings. This policy is not only a violation of public health guidelines but also infringes upon the constitutional rights of individuals attending these meetings.

The policy in question is in direct conflict with established case law and constitutional protections. Specifically, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that the refusal to wear a mask during a public health emergency does not constitute protected speech under the First Amendment (*Falcone v. Freehold Township Board of Education*, 2024)¹. This ruling underscores that while individuals may voice their opposition to mask mandates through various means, disobeying a masking requirement is not protected by the Constitution.

Furthermore, the Kentucky Court of Appeals in *Campbell County Board of Education v. Ken Moellman, Sr.* (2023) found that imposing mask requirements as a condition for attending public meetings violates open meetings laws, which state that no condition other than those required for the maintenance of order shall apply to the attendance of any member of the public at any meeting of a public agency². This precedent clearly indicates that the Edison Town Council's policy is unlawful.

In light of these legal precedents, I urge the Edison Town Council to immediately revoke the policy requiring the removal of masks while speaking at public meetings. Failure to do so will result in further legal action to protect the constitutional rights of the public and ensure compliance with established laws.

I look forward to your prompt response and the immediate cessation of this unlawful policy.

Semper Fidelis,

Steven Wronko

From: asad khan <asad_kh@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 1:19 PM
To: jcoyle@edisonnj.gov; Rbrescher@edisonnj.gov; npatel@edisonnj.gov; mharris@edisonnj.gov; apatil@edisonnj.gov; ashmuel@edisonnj.gov; jpoyner@edisonnj.gov
Subject: Time limit ordinance

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Hello Edison council,
i am a resident of Edison Township. I would like to ask you to not to reduce the time limit to less than 5 minutes. Edison resident should be able to raise their concerns and less than 5 minutes are not enough.
Second please don't intimidate residents to raise their concern by asking police to remove.
Our police is more effective stopping the crime that is increasing day by day. Our tax dollars should be put for the safety of residents and not to intimidate them for raising their voices.

Thanks
Asad

From: Alicea, Chelsea </O=EDISONTWP/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=02BB3697BFDC4D9880B40B442AB16508-ALICIA, CHELSE>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:21 AM
To: All Edison Township
Subject: Hungarian Flag Raising Ceremony- Today August 20th, 2024 at 2:00pm.
Attachments: image001.png

Good morning,

Please join us this afternoon at 2:00pm in front of Town Hall for our Hungarian Flag Raising Ceremony.

Thank you,



Chelsea Alicea
Administration
Mayor's Office | Township of Edison
P: 732-248-7301
E: calicea@edisonnj.gov

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