

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-5.1**

**RESOLUTION NAMING THE BOROUGH ARBORETUM IN THE MEMORY  
OF EILEEN M. HEINZEL, FOR HER SERVICE TO PENNINGTON**

**WHEREAS**, Eileen Heinzl, who died too young, was an accomplished and beloved public official in the Borough of Pennington where she served for 16 years as a Library Volunteer (2004-2020), ten years as a Member of Borough Council (2004-2014), 15 years on the Planning Board (2007-2022), and eight years as Borough Administrator (2014-2022);

**WHEREAS**, Eileen’s accomplishments as Borough Administrator improved management of the Borough across the entire span of local government responsibilities, ranging from public works and the water utility to trees and solar energy, from renovation of Borough Hall and support for the Police Department and its officers to acquisition of open space and leading, with community participation, the development of the Pennington Library’s first strategic plan;

**WHEREAS**, prominent among Eileen’s achievements was her pivotal role in the creation of the Borough Arboretum;

**WHEREAS**, in 2017, as Borough Administrator, Eileen helped initiate a public collaboration with the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space (FOHVOS) and others toward creation of an arboretum on the lands of the Toll Gate School;

**WHEREAS**, in that year, the Borough used a grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) to retain Michael Van Clef, Stewardship Director of FOHVOS, to prepare a plan for the arboretum, which was completed in April 2018 with assistance from members of the Borough Environmental Commission, Shade Tree Committee, Open Space Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission and other community volunteers;

**WHEREAS**, the goal of these efforts was to create a native plant arboretum accessible to students, teachers, residents and the general public;

**WHEREAS**, under Eileen’s leadership the Borough acquired 2.8 acres at the rear of the school property, securing funding through the New Jersey Green Acres Program;

**WHEREAS**, when illness forced Eileen to resign from her position as Borough Administrator, the Arboretum was well on its way to fulfilling the community’s vision for it;

**WHEREAS**, as it nears completion and its grand opening in the Spring of 2025, the Arboretum can be viewed as a monument to the leadership of Eileen Heinzl and to the many Pennington residents and volunteers who made it happen;

**WHEREAS**, Borough Council therefore seeks to pay grateful tribute to Eileen, both for her contribution to this important project and for the selfless public service she represented throughout her career;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that Pennington’s Arboretum on the former property of the Toll Gate School shall hereafter be known as “The Eileen M. Heinzl Memorial Arboretum.”

**Record of Council Vote on Passage**

<b>COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>N.V.</b>	<b>A.B.</b>	<b>COUNCILMAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>N.V.</b>	<b>A.B.</b>
Angarone					Marciante				
Chandler					Stern				
Gnatt					Valenza				

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington at a meeting on May 6, 2024.

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Elizabeth Sterling, Borough Clerk