



# BOROUGH OF RED BANK

90 MONMOUTH STREET ♦ RED BANK ♦ NJ 07701

## MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ♦ REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 1, 2026 ♦ 12:00 P.M.

**SUNSHINE STATEMENT** This meeting is being held in accordance with the Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231 and adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by a notice sent to Asbury Park Press, Two River Times and Star Ledger and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Building and on the municipal website.

OPMA authorizes municipalities to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms. The Red Bank Council is meeting in person as well as providing an option for the public to participate in via ZOOM video meetings. Please note that the option to attend is being provided as a courtesy, therefore, if Zoom becomes unavailable during the meeting and it cannot quickly be fixed, Council will continue with the remainder of the meeting. For those joining us via Zoom, please raise your hand during designated times to be recognized for a comment. Whether you are appearing in person or via Zoom, you must provide your name to be recognized.

### I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. INVOCATION – Pastor Janet Jones

### III. OATH OF OFFICE – ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### 1. Swearing in of Governing body- Sworn in by Senator Vin Gopal

Senator Vin Gopal made a few remarks and congratulated the elected officials and continued with the Oath of Office, as follows:

- Councilmember Kristina Bonatakis
- Councilmember Ben Forest
- Councilmember Laura Jannone
- Councilmember Ben Yuro

### IV. OATH OF OFFICE – FIRE DEPARTMENT:

#### 1. Swearing in of Fire Officials- Sworn in by Mayor Portman

- Second Deputy Chief – Francis Scott Calabrese
- First Deputy Chief – Brett MacDonald
- Chief – Michael J. Welsh

### V. OFFICIAL ROLL CALL

Mayor Portman     Bonatakis     Facey-Blackwood     Forest     Jannone     Triggiano     Yuro

### VI. PRESENTATION:

1. **Presentation (plaque):** In Recognition of David Cassidy- presented by Mayor and Council

### VII. RESOLUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Councilmember Forest motioned to approve resolutions 26-01 through 26-18 under the Consent Agenda; Councilmember Jannone seconded the motion. A roll call vote confirmed all in favor.

**26-01 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2026 (KATE TRIGGIANO)**

**26-02 RESOLUTION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY, GREGORY J. CANNON, ESQ. FOR THE FIRM CANNON & MCGUINN, LLC FOR CY 2026**

**26-03 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACTS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

*NOTE: This may not be the order of business. There may be additions or deletions.*

- 26-04 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING COUNCIL LIAISON APPOINTMENTS FOR 2026**
- 26-05 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR 2026**
- 26-06 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2026**
- 26-07 RESOLUTION DESIGNATION OF MEDIA OUTLETS**
- 26-08 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2026 TEMPORARY BUDGET**
- 26-09 RESOLUTION APPROVING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN**
- 26-10 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CREATION OF CHANGE FUNDS**
- 26-11 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK**
- 26-12 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CFO TO CONDUCT FINANCIAL MATTERS BETWEEN REGULAR BUSINESS MEETINGS IN 2026**
- 26-13 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVED STATE CONTRACT VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-12A**
- 26-14 RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT TAXES, UTILITY AND OTHER MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENTS**
- 26-15 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, BOROUGH MANAGER, AND/OR THE LICENSED WATER/SEWER OPERATOR TO SIGN TREATMENT WORKS APPROVAL (TWA) AND BUREAU OF WATER SYSTEM ENGINEERING (BWSE) APPLICATIONS**
- 26-16 RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK'S CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO ALL OFFICIALS, APPOINTEES, EMPLOYEES, PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT COME INTO CONTRACT WITH MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS**
- 26-17 RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THOMAS SEAMAN, CMFO AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE BOROUGH FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2029, THEREBY GRANTING TENURE TO SAID BOROUGH EMPLOYEE**
- 26-18 RESOLUTION APPOINTING BROWN & BROWN AS BROKER OF RECORD FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

#### **VIII. REMARKS OF MAYOR PORTMAN AND COUNCIL**

Councilmember Bonatakis wishes all a Happy New Year. She is so honored to continue to serve the Borough. There has been so much positive change and it's an amazing feeling.

Councilmember Yuro, it is a real honor to serve the community in this compacity. Looking forward to working with everyone in town in moving the town forward. Thank you and Happy New Year

Councilmember Facey- Blackwood, Happy New Year to all and it is a great honor to continue to serve with existing and newly elected members. Grateful for the engineers and professionals in the Borough and looking forward moving forward with all the projects in town. Thanked Senator Vin Gopal and his entire staff for the continued support.

Councilmember Forest appreciates the working relationship he has with the members of this governing body; they continue to work for the good of the community. He is proud of all the things this Council is trying to accomplish, this is truly a team effort. It is an honor to run unopposed, looking forward to this new term.

Councilmember Jannone, Happy New Year, thanked the public for allowing her to continue to serve. Thanked Borough Manager Gant and her colleagues for continuously working hard for the betterment of the community. Thanked her family for all the support. Thanked the public for continuing to put their trust into this governing body.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano, Happy New Year to all. Thanked Senator Gopal's office and his staff for their continued support for the betterment of the Borough. Thanked all the volunteers for giving their time to sit on these various boards/committees. She is grateful to her family, friends, and colleagues for all their support. Elated to have

Councilmember Yuro to join this governing body, he is an asset and it will be exciting to see him serve the Borough at this capacity.

Mayor Portman, read a letter from Senator Gopal's office, congratulating the Borough of its GOLD status for NJ EZ Ride for promoting safety. Happy New Year to all. Happy to have newly elected Councilmember Yuro on board. Applauded Borough Manager Gant for all his accomplishment over these past two (2) years, it is a testament to his commitment and dedication he has for the Borough. Thanked the building department for their hard work in the past year.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilmember Forest motioned to open the floor for public questions & comments; Councilmember Yuro seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

1. Charles Janjigian, 165 Spring St. – Happy New Year to all. Congratulated the Borough on the start of Marine Park. Addressed an incident where he was issued a summons. He wants to make sure that there are working public facilities that are open to the public. Would like the Senator to address NJ Transit on providing public facilities being available for the public.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano addressed Mr. Janjigian and assured him that there are indeed working facilities at Marine Park.

Councilmember Yuro motioned to close the floor to public comment; Councilmember Forest seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

**X. BENEDICTION – Pastor Janet Jones**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**TIME: 12:45 P.M.**

There being no further business, Councilmember Forest offered motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Yuro. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moss, RMC  
Borough Clerk