

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
January 12, 2022
6:30 P.M.**

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Menna requested the minutes reflect that, in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on December 15, 2021.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

ALSO PRESENT: Interim Administrator McConnell, Borough Clerk Borghi and Attorney Cannon.

*Meeting held via video/telephone conference due to Governor's Executive Order.

PROCLAMATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

a. Appointments

Alecia Wilkerson as a member of the Red Bank Housing Authority for a five-year term ending 12/31/2026.

Councilman Ballard offered a motion to confirm the appointment, Councilman Zipprich seconded.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

Glenn Carter—Executive Director of RiverCenter—thanked the Council for their thoughtful discussion on the Broad Street project. He said he also wanted to thank the people doing the work on the project including the construction workers, the engineering staff and the Borough's traffic division. He said RiverCenter emphatically supported the replacement of the main. He thanked the Council.

William Poku—90 Bank Street—said he wanted to comment on the Assessor and asked if that was an agenda item.

Clerk Borghi was the only item on the agenda regarding the Tax Assessor was a resolution to authorize an agreement with the County for Tax Map services.

Mr. Poku said he wanted to comment on the reports of the Tax Assessor and Tax Collector that had been referenced on the Workshop agenda.

Mayor Menna told him to go ahead.

Mr. Poku said January 15 was the deadline to file a property tax appeal and urged everyone to visit a specific website to file their appeal. He said he had previously addressed the Council regarding a discrepancy in assessments across New Jersey. He said it was having a destructive impact on the black community. He offered his theories on gentrification and offered examples he said he had seen in his neighborhood. He urged the Council to direct that the link to file a tax appeal be placed on the Borough's website.

No one else appearing, Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to close the Public Comment period, Councilwoman Horgan seconded.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

MINUTES & REPORTS

Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/20/2021

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Sturdivant

There being five ayes, no nays and one abstention, the motion was declared approved.

Workshop Meeting Minutes of 11/3/2021

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Yngstrom.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Sturdivant

There being five ayes, no nays and one abstention, the motion was declared approved.

Regular Meeting Minutes of 11/10/2021

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Ballard.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Sturdivant

There being five ayes, no nays and one abstention, the motion was declared approved.

ORDINANCES - Public Hearing/Adoption:

No ordinance for Public Hearing/Adoption.

ORDINANCES – First Reading:

No ordinances for First Reading.

RESOLUTIONS

By Consent Agenda:

- Resolution 22-17: Resolution for Payment of Bills Amounting to \$1,825,620.65
- Resolution 22-18: A Resolution Amending the 2022 Temporary Appropriations
- Resolution 22-19: A Resolution Appointing Clifford Keen as Fund Commissioner and Darren McConnell as Alternate Fund Commissioner to Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund.
- Resolution 22-20: A Resolution Appointing Clifford Keen as Fund Commissioner and Darren McConnell as Alternate Fund Commissioner to Central Jersey Health Insurance Fund.
- Resolution 22-21: A Resolution in Support of Revised Speed Limits on County Route 13 (Shrewsbury Avenue and Rector Place)
- Resolution 22-22: Resolution Accepting the Retirement and Confirming Benefits for Police Officer Dawn Shields
- Resolution 22-23: Resolution in Support of Competitive Electricity Markets to Deliver Consumers Affordable, Reliable and Low-Emission Electricity
- Resolution 22-24: Resolution Awarding a Professional Services Contract to Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, Inc. for Property & Casualty Insurance Brokerage and Risk Management Services
- Resolution 22-25: Resolution to Authorize Shared Service Agreement between the Borough of Red Bank and the Township of Shrewsbury for the Shared Use of Municipal Court
- Resolution 22-26: A Resolution Authorizing Agreement with the Borough of Little Silver whereby Red Bank shall Provide Uniform Fire Code Enforcement Services Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:70 through 5:71 Et. Seq. for a Term through October 31, 2022
- Resolution 22-27: Resolution to Approve a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Monmouth to Provide the iTax Map/Collaboration Center System (Tax Map Conversion and Maintenance Services)

Councilman Zipprich said he wanted to make a comment on Resolution 22-22 regarding the retirement of Officer Shields. He said she had been an incredible asset to the Red Bank Police Department and commended her work with the Borough schools.

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to approve the resolutions en masse, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Triggiano said she echoed Councilman Zipprich's comments regarding Officer Shields and commended her for her service and professionalism. She also thanked the members of the Fire Department for their work at a recent fire and thanked the Community for the response and outreach to support the families that were impacted.

Councilman Yngstrom offered an update on the work being done on the budget including meetings with Department Heads.

Councilman Ballard said he had no report but also wanted to thank Officer Shields and wish her well on her retirement.

Councilwoman Horgan said she had no report but also wanted to echo what the other Councilmembers had said in wishing Officer Shields a happy retirement and thanked her for her years of service.

Councilwoman Sturdivant said she would also like to thank Officer Shields for her outstanding career in serving Red Bank and wish her a wonderful retirement.

Councilman Zipprich reported that the Public Works Department would continue to collect Christmas Trees into February. He said, if there were any issues with garbage or recycling, residents should call the contractor. He thanked the DPW staff for their efforts during the first snowfall of the new year. He said construction would begin in the spring on the East Side Parking Lots. He reported that RiverCenter had released their meeting schedule for the year and thanked Director Carter for calling in to offer his support regarding the Broad Street project. He also offered an update on the Historic Preservation Commission and Senior Center activities.

Mayor Menna said he joined the other Councilmembers in congratulating Officer Shields on her selfless service for so many years. He said he also wanted to posthumously express his appreciation to a trailblazer and icon which was Horner Williams. He reflected on his memories of Mr. Williams.

Councilman Zipprich also shared memories and offered condolences.

DISCUSSION & ACTION

Mayor Menna read a request from Scott Eskwitt for membership to the Navesink Hook and Ladder Company of the Red Bank Volunteer Fire Department.

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None.

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Governmental Issues, 5 Minute Limit)

Sue Viscomi—25 Cedar Street—asked if service pipes were replaced on Broad Street, would that set a precedent throughout town. She asked what they would say to residents who had had to pay in the past. She said she also notice that the Borough website listed the Councilmembers and what committees they served on. She said she noticed that neither Councilwoman Sturdivant nor Councilman Ballard served on the Finance Committee and asked how committee appointments were determined. She said both Councilmembers Sturdivant and Ballard has financial experience. She also asked about businesses that had been closed due to the Broad Street project and asked if they would be compensated for their loss.

Mayor Menna said that would be a private responsibility.

Phil Blackwood—34 Chestnut Street—asked the Council to keep climate change on the agenda and stressed the need for local action. He gave examples of suggested actions.

William Poku—90 Bank Street—asked if the Borough would put the link for tax appeals on the Borough website. He asked, if not, who taxpayers should contact for direction.

Mayor Menna said an announcement could be made and taxpayers should contact the Monmouth County Board of Taxation.

No one else appearing, Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to close the Public Comment period, Councilwoman Horgan seconded.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

22-28 The Borough Attorney read a resolution to adjourn to executive session to discuss Potential Litigation, Contract Negotiation and Personnel. Possible action to be taken.

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Councilwoman Triggiano.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

RESUME REGULAR BUSINESS

Councilwoman Triggiano offered a motion to resume regular business, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Mayor Menna asked that the Clerk call roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom and Zipprich

ALSO PRESENT: Interim Administrator McConnell, Borough Clerk Borghi and Attorney Cannon.

22-29: Mayor Menna read, "Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contracts for Professional Services (Engineer)."

Mayor Menna noted that T&M Associates was the firm that was the subject of the resolution.

Councilman Yngstrom offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Triggiano, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: Sturdivant, Ballard

There being four ayes and two nays, the motion was declared approved.

Mayor Menna said he also wanted to note that the other firms that had been considered had all been appointed as conflict engineers on January 1.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Governmental Issues, 5 Minute Limit)

Rob Keady – T&M Associates—thanked the Council behalf of T&M Associates for the appointment. He said they had worked in Red Bank for many years in the past and said they would serve the Borough well.

No one else appearing, Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to close the public comment, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Horgan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sturdivant, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom, Zipprich and Horgan.

NAYS: None

There being six ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi