

**MINUTES  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK  
JANUARY 1, 2017 -- 3:00 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Menna and Council Members Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor and Whelan.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Borough Clerk Borghi, Chief Financial Officer Poulos and Attorney Cannon.

**ABSENT:** Administrator Sickels

**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 14, 2016.

Mayor Menna welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged elected officials and former elected officials who were in attendance.

**INVOCATION**—Father Alberto Tamayo

**SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling issued the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Horgan.

Assemblywoman Joann Downey issued the Oath of Office to Councilman Yngstrom.

Mayor Menna asked Councilman Yngstrom if he would like to make a comment.

Councilman Yngstrom thanked the residents for giving him the chance to serve. He said he was excited to get started and was excited to work with everyone on the Council. He said he wanted to try to make Red Bank the best place it could be. He said they had a lot of work to do but said they had all of the tools in place to make Red Bank the best town in the area and the best town in the State. He said he was grateful to be one of the voices of the residents. He offered thanks to all those that had supported him.

**SWEARING IN OF FIRE OFFICIALS:**

Mayor Menna swore in the Fire Officials for 2017.

Chief: Peter DeFazio

First Deputy Chief: J. Stuart Jensen

Second Deputy Chief: Wayne Hartman

Mayor Menna spoke of the amount of sacrifice required to serve in the role of Chief. He noted that Chief Hartman was serving for a second time and Chief DeFazio was serving for a third time.

**RESOLUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS FOR 2017**

17-01            Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION ELECTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2017.”

Councilman Taylor offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

**NAYS:** None

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

Council President Horgan said she had been reflecting on how she had become a member of the Council. She said, ten years ago, she had been approached by then-Mayor Edward J. McKenna Jr. to run for office. She said she had told him she didn't feel she was qualified. She said Mayor McKenna had told her that there were no qualification and that she would be fine. She said she had decided to run and now, three terms later, she was ready to begin a fourth term. She equated serving on Council with having a child. She said at first, she didn't have a clue but said she learned by doing and by having good people to help her along the way. She said she also equated the Council to a family. She said, like most families, they don't always get along and don't always have the same outlook or opinion. She said, at the end of the day, they would always come together to find a consensus. She said she was looking forward to working with everyone in the coming year. She thanked all of those who supported her during her campaign and wished everyone a happy new year.

17-02            Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES."

Councilman Taylor expressed concern about the fact that Municipal Prosecutor Butler was not being reappointed. He reviewed his experience and working relationship with Municipal officials.

Mayor Menna said Mr. Butler was a friend and said the Council respected and thanked all of the professionals who had served the Borough and those that continue to serve. He said Mr. Wilton was also qualified and said he would serve the Borough well. He asked if it was the Council's pleasure to pull the resolution and vote on that appointment separately.

Councilman Taylor said he just wanted to note the concern for the record.

Councilwoman Horgan said it was not a reflection of Mr. Butler's performance.

Councilwoman Horgan made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:            Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:            None

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

17-03            Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS FOR 2016."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES:            Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:            None

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

17-04            Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING TIME AND PLACE OF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2017."

Councilman Whelan offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:            Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:            None

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

17-05            Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NEWSPAPERS TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF MEETINGS."

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

17-06 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2017 TEMPORARY BUDGET.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

17-07 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION APPROVING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

17-08 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE HUMAN RELATIONS MANAGER AS THE CERTIFYING AGENT AND THE BOROUGH TREASURER AS THE SUPERVISOR OF THE CERTIFYING AGENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Whelan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

17-09 Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CREATION OF CHANGE FUNDS.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Whelan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

17-10        Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TREASURER TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT IN VALLEY NATIONAL BANK AND TO SIGN ALL PAYROLL CHECKS.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:        Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:        None

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

17-11        Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORYES FOR THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES:        Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:        None

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

17-12        Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT TAXES, UTILITY AND OTHER MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENTS.”

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES:        Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:        None

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

17-13        Mayor Menna read “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TREASURER TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT FOR MAKING PAYMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LIENS.”

Councilwoman Schwabenbauer offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Whelan.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:        Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS:        None

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

#### **REMARKS OF MAYOR MENNA**

Mayor Menna thanked the family members of the newly elected and re-elected Council members for their support. He thanked all in attendance and thanked the many elected officials. He praised the Council's

relationship with the County government. He thanked Freeholder Director Arnone for his quick response to whatever needed to be done and thank him for the partnership. He said the County recognized Red Bank as the center of the County. He reviewed issues facing the Borough in 2017. He said they would be facing a comprehensive restructuring of Borough government and noted that they would be looking for a new Administrator for the first time in 20 years. He spoke of Administrator Sickels' history in the Borough and thanked him and his family for his service. He said it would also be an opportunity to look at all departments and review with professionals to see how to improve function. He called for moving forward into the digital age. He thanked Councilwoman Horgan and the Information/Technology committee for their work to update the Borough's website.

He also said the Council, in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Borough Engineers, would continue work to reclaim the six acre site at the foot of Sunset Avenue that was the former Borough reclamation facility. He said it had been a contaminated site but said remediation and testing had been ongoing. He said the plan was to turn it into a state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly passive recreation facility for the benefit of all residents but especially for those in the residential neighborhoods of the west side. He said he would like to see the Parks and Recreation Committee be engaged in it and said that he would like to appoint a citizen committee of residents from the west side to offer public input as lay people.

He noted that the County had successfully completed work on the Front Street Bridge project. He said the Borough and the County had lobbied to get the railroad trestle removed but had been unsuccessful. He said they were now looking at traffic calming on Shrewsbury Avenue, a County roadway. He said the Borough would be working with the County but would like Shrewsbury Avenue residents, both commercial and residential, for input.

He said the Borough had made great strides with the DPW project to install the new metering systems that would allow the Borough to monitor consumption as it happened. He said some that had come to light was that the Borough had not been able to successfully deal with line repairs that could cost both residents and the Borough a lot of money. He said he was looking into an insurance program that could help recover costs in a catastrophic loss. He said the felt the program would help residents that were faced with those types of repairs.

He thanked Commissioner Whelan for the Fire Department initiative to consolidate. He commended the Department for its forward vision. He said he was happy to report that the Department currently had more members than ever and also that burden no longer had the burden of firehouse ownership. He said the remaining facilities were all privately owned by the various companies. He said by consolidating, the Borough was able to focus financial resources on providing more incentives, training and better, more modern and rapid response equipment. He said it would also encourage comraderies as the six fire companies began to think as one department. He thanked the firefighters and especially Chief Soden for his efforts with the consolidation. He said the added benefit to the sale of the properties was that the two firehouses would be privately owned and would be commercial ventures that would bring vitality to town while remaining historic properties.

He said the Borough had also made great strides in historic preservation and said forward progress was being made on the Fortune House. He said, a few years ago, people thought that the property could not be preserved and said it had been in disrepair for many years. He said the Council had become engaged in a preservation effort that, through community involvement, would provide housing and preservation of the structure. He said the progress was already visible and said they had been able to save an important part of the fabric of African American history not only in the State of New Jersey but in the nation. He said the former owner was well known leader and newspaper editor, T. Thomas Fortune.

He said the Borough was also working in partnership with the Red Bank Housing Authority to move forward on their plans to upgrade Montgomery Terrace. He said they had also been working with Senator Beck and members of the Assembly for the assistance with improvements to traffic calming along the Route 35 corridor. He said the goal was to reduce the speeds along Riverside Avenue and add a traffic light as Bodman Place. He said they would be meeting with the Department of Transportation in January. He also noted that there were issues with the traffic flow on Maple Avenue near Front Street. He asked the Police Chief to do an analysis on the area and called for the hiring of more Class I special officers to monitor traffic issues.

He reported that the train station redevelopment area had been under discussion. He said the original idea needed to be curtailed in scope and size and reviewed the details of the plan. He said that, for the first time in 15 years, the Borough was making progress on a parking garage. He stressed that there was no garage design or formula in place. He said they had only reaffirmed that it was in accordance with the Master Plan to designate the area as an area in need of an upgrade. He called for a greater use of the public space and said the next step would be to hold public hearings and listen to idea. He said the Council should be open to embracing new ideas and said some of the suggestions were very good. He

said he had listened to the comments and felt that entertainment uses and gardens should be included with the resident and parking components. He said he felt they should think outside box to come up with something different with pizzazz.

He also said the Council would continue to support the efforts of the Board of Education to make the school system the best in the area. He said they had also listened to the public and they had comment that they wanted to see everything on the website and said he agreed with them. He said it agenda items were not ready for the agenda by 5pm Friday, they would not go on and would have to be workshopped. He said effective immediately all agenda items, including working documents, would be on line by 5pm Friday. He also pledge to return to his previous policy of Saturday morning meetings with constituents. He said he would invite other Councilmembers as long as it wouldn't violate the Sunshine law.

He said he looked forward to working with Councilman Taylor and the Code Committee. He said one of the first things they would be doing would be to address the abandoned property ordinance so it would address not just foreclosed properties but also those that, while not foreclosed upon, have not been maintained. He also thanked Councilman Zipprich for his efforts with Public Works and said he had the Council's support for future planning efforts for the Department. He welcomed Councilman Yngstrom on Board and thanked Councilwoman Horgan for her support throughout the years.

He again thanked everyone for attending and wished all a happy new year.

**BENEDICTION**—Father Alberto Tamayo

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Yngstrom, Zipprich, Horgan, Schwabenbauer, Taylor, Whelan

NAYS: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi