

**MINUTES
REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2010
11:00 A.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee and Murphy.

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Sickels, Deputy Borough Clerk Borghi, Chief Financial Officer Mason, Attorney Pringle, Assistant Attorney Hall and Engineer Ballard.

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 8, 2009.

INVOCATION – Father Carotenuto

SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Superior Court Judge Daniel Waldman issued the Oath of Office to Councilman Murphy.

Superior Court Judge Daniel Waldman issued the Oath of Office to Councilman DuPont.

SWEARING IN OF FIRE OFFICIALS:

Superior Court Judge Daniel Waldman issued the Oath of Office to:
Chief: Alan Soden, Jr.

Mayor Menna issued the Oath of Office to:
First Deputy Chief: John Mego
Second Deputy Chief: Joshua Sanders

Councilman Murphy thanked Judge Waldman for swearing him in. He wished everyone a happy new year and said, as he started a new term, he wanted to thank all those involved in the election including his fellow Council members, the Red Bank Democratic Club, the McKenna family and his running mate Michael DuPont. He said he wanted to thank all those who came out to vote whether or not they voted for him. He thanked his wife Jan and his two children who are always there to support him. He added that they understand his love and compassion for this town and have seen him through four swearing ins and three elections. He said he understands the amount of time that is dedicated to this job and thanked his wife for letting him be himself.

He said he would also like to take the opportunity to thank all of the volunteer firemen, fire police, first aid and ladies auxiliary for another successful year. He added that he wanted to thank their families as well for lending them to the town seven days a week, twenty four hours a day. He said their devotion to the town makes them one of the best departments in the State. He said outgoing Chief Joseph Forgione has truly been an excellent Chief due to his leadership, his respect and his loyalty to the town. New Chief Alan Soden Jr., he continued, comes from a long line of firemen throughout his family. He called him a devoted volunteer and noted that he was serving his second term as Chief out of Union Hose Company. He said the new Second Deputy Chief, John Mego, had 45 years of dedicated service in the department and was out of Relief Engine Company. He said the new Second Deputy Chief, Joshua Sanders, will certainly add some fun to the Fire Department noting that he was a young, devoted individual. Councilman Murphy extended his congratulations to all three and said he looked forward to working with them throughout the year.

Councilman Murphy said he would like to thank the Red Bank Police Department for their time and service to the community over the past years. He noted that the time they spend with different organizations such as schools and churches throughout the town to education our children about drug and gang awareness goes unnoticed. He said the crime rate in town is down due to the valiant efforts of the department and said they would continue to strive in that direction. He announced that the Borough will have a new Chief of Police, Captain Steve McCarthy, who was unanimously selected by the Police Committee and Borough Council to assume the position due to the retirement of Chief Mark Fitzgerald. He said Chief Fitzgerald had given the town 32 years of service with the last seven as Chief. His dedication to the community and Council, his men and to law enforcement, makes Chief Fitzgerald one of

the most regarded and respected chiefs within the State. On behalf of Borough Council, Councilman Murphy said he would like to extend their thanks to Chief Fitzgerald and his entire family for his devotion of time and his willingness to make Red Bank a safer place. He noted that today, Captain McCarthy would be appointed as Acting Chief until January 11 when he would be sworn in as the new Chief of Police so he and his family can prepare for friends to attend. He wished Captain McCarthy and his family all the best and said he looked forward to working with him.

As liaison to the Borough's Senior Center, Councilman Murphy said he wanted to thank Jackie Reynolds and Wilhelmina Vaughn for their devotion and willingness to help our seniors. Through them, he continued, the Senior Center continues to be one of the best in the area. In closing, he said, he would like to thank the Governing Body for their support through the year of his efforts to make Red Bank a better place. He thanked Administrator Sickels, Assistant Administrator Watson, Borough Attorneys Pringle and Hall, CFO Mason and Engineer Ballard. He said these professionals, along with the rest of the Borough's employees, make Red Bank what it is. He commended the employees' hard work and dedication to the Borough noting that they work ten hour days and all departments are short staffed.

Councilman DuPont said he wanted to extend his sincere appreciation to all of the Red Bank residents and said it was truly a humbling and honoring experience to represent them. He said when he was walking door to door, he met many people who did not support them, but both they and those who did support them, make them better public servants. He thanked all of those who took the time to talk to him and Councilman Murphy and, for those who expressed a difference of opinion, he asked that they continue to express those differences of opinion. He said he also wanted to thank the Finance Department which he felt had the biggest impact. He said the members of the department have a great grasp of the budget process and that included CFO Mason and his staff noting that they work tremendous hours and, more importantly, provide great information. He said they help to achieve the Borough's goal of fiscal responsibility. He said they don't always get the publicity or recognition, but they are the people that come up with the budget and great ideas on saving money. He said, from his perspective, they were the greatest resource in attaining the Borough's goal. He said he also wanted to express his appreciation for the tireless efforts of Juanita Lewis and Ed Zipprich. He noted that not a day went by that he didn't talk to both of them to come up with new ideas in respect to finance. He said it was a pleasure to work with them and to express differences of opinion in attaining the goal of fiscal responsibility.

He said it was a privilege to be on the Governing Body and he expressed his thanks to Mayor Menna, Councilwoman Horgan, Councilwoman Lee, Councilman Zipprich and Councilwoman Lewis for being part of a team. Last but not least, he thanked his running mate Councilman Murphy for allowing his to be part of a team and for being called a friend. He also thanked former Mayor McKenna saying he still went to him to seek his advice and wisdom. He noted that 2009 was a difficult year Mayor McKenna but noted that he was always there with advice and wisdom and words could not express his appreciation for his friendship and love.

Finally, he said he wanted to say thank you to his wife calling her his rock and foundation. He expressed his love and thanks to her, his children and his mother. He said had had promised Red Bank residents accountability and fiscal responsibility through transparency. He said he knew there were some differences of opinion but that would help to make a better Red Bank. He noted that he had been a Borough resident for 25 years and diversity is what brought him here. He promised that he would be present and accountable. He said the natural resources that Red Bank has, had been a blessing to him and his family and he pledged to be part of the green team and pushing for river access, solar panels and to make sure that we protect our natural resources. He said it would be his goal in the next three years to see that they work to develop Monmouth Street, continue the push for affordable housing and continue to work toward the preservation of the train station. He thanked the public for the opportunity to serve and wished everyone a happy new year.

Councilwoman Lee said she looked forward to working with Councilmen DuPont and Murphy. She said it was an honor to serve on the Council. She commended those participate in the town whether through the government, fire or police departments or employees and said they all love the Borough and that is why they are all here with the support of the families to see the Borough moves forward in a positive direction. She thanked the public for letting her be part of it.

Councilwoman Horgan said she also wanted to congratulate Councilmen DuPont and Murphy calling them two great assets to the Council. She said it was important to note that each person on the Council brings something and they do it for the residents. She said she was pleased that they would still be a team and they wanted to hear residents' concerns.

Councilwoman Lewis also offered her congratulations to Councilman DuPont and Murphy and said her first year on Council had been quite an experience. She said she was grateful for the opportunity to work on the behalf of the citizens of Red Bank and she looked forward to continuing the effort and to the great things they were going to do for the town. She also asked citizens to hold her accountable and keep them in line for what they needed to do for the Borough.

Councilman Zipprich said he was pleased to serve with Councilmen DuPont and Murphy noting that they ran a great race. He said 2010 would pose a great many challenges and he was very confident in the

members of the Governing Body and the Borough's professionals. He said as they move forward they will think outside the box to tackle the challenges that the new year will bring. He said they will once again focus all of their efforts fiscal accountability and fiscal responsibility.

Councilman DuPont said he forgot to thank two people and wanted to thank Deputy Clerk Borghi who he said has been wearing many different hats and noted that the Finance Committee has relied on her to get information. He said he wanted to express his deep appreciation to her as well as Deputy Clerk Thomas for going above and beyond.

Mayor Menna said he also wanted to add his thanks to Administrative Secretary Hoffman saying that the three of them had been pinch hitting beyond belief.

RESOLUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS FOR 2010

10-01 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION ELECTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2010."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-02 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ENGINEER."

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-03 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH AUDITOR."

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-04 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: DuPont

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

10-05 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS FOR 2010."

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-06 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING TIME AND PLACE OF BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2010."

Councilman DuPont offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-07 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NEWSPAPERS TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF MEETINGS."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-08 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 TEMPORARY BUDGET."

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

10-09 Mayor Menna read "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES TO THE TOWNSHIP OF SHREWSBURY ON AN EMERGENT BASIS."

Councilman Murphy offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman DuPont.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

REMARKS OF MAYOR MENNA

Mayor Menna wished everyone a happy new year. He thanked our Creator for making it through another year and said we were grateful to be living in this country and for all of us to be together once again. He said he wanted to welcome some special guests. He thanked Father Carotenuto for being at the meeting and for his work in the community. He also thanked Judge Waldman and School Superintendent Dr.

Morana. He said he wanted to welcome Freeholder Director McMorrow and thanked her for her help with the \$250,000 open space grant for Count Basie Field recently received by the Borough. He said it was a tremendous blessing and credited the Board with putting resources where a lot of people live. He also welcomed former Council member and current State Senator Jennifer Beck, County Democratic Chairman Scuderi, Neptune Mayor Bishop, Matawan Mayor Buccellato, former Red Bank Mayor McKenna, former Tinton Falls Mayor McNamara and former Red Bank Council member Hintemann.

He said he was graced with having six hard working individuals on the Governing Body with him and credited them with doing the hard work. He commended Council President Murphy especially with his work with the Police and Fire Departments. He said he had known Councilwoman Lee since school days and commended her efforts with Public Works and their ability to do more with fewer resources. He called Councilwoman Horgan his colleague and friend and said she brought excitement to the table adding that her stewardship of the Technology Committee had brought the Borough up to the modern age and commended her work with the Borough schools, especially the preschool programs. He said Councilwoman Lewis had taken on the challenge of the Parks and Recreation Department which he said impacts the greatest number of our residents and our future noting that she would be involved in a search for a new Parks and Recreation Director. He also credited her with successfully spearheading the agreement with the Boys and Girls Club at no cost to the taxpayers. He commended the energy of Councilman Zipprich and said he had a great passion for historic preservation. He credited his efforts for obtaining a historical designation for an entire neighborhood while working with residents of the neighborhood to alleviate any concerns. He also thanked him for his encouragement and efforts with the NJTransit restoration project. He said Councilman DuPont has headed Finance and Personnel Committee and taken on just about everything else they have asked him to do. He said they are in constant communication. He said he had worked a miracle with a very difficult budget in 2009. He said they made necessary cuts and were looking to make more. He credited Council DuPont with streamlining the Borough's policies and procedures. He said his expertise was in getting people to the table to get things done. He said he was diligent and his heart was in the right place.

He looked forward to the coming year and said many items were pivotal to the Borough's continued progress and success. He said these included the revitalization of the Monmouth Street corridor. He also noted the NJTransit was investing a substantial amount of money in the train station area because they believed it was an anchor of Red Bank. He discussed the importance of effectively developing properties along the Monmouth Street corridor. He noted the many planning objectives that the Council had recommended and the Planning Board adopted to help people open up businesses in Red Bank. He said there was a lot of recycling of properties going on right now and noted the difficult economic climate. He said that, while 44 businesses had closed in the RiverCenter district in the past year, there had been 34 openings. He said this did not include the eight openings of businesses along the Shrewsbury Avenue corridor. He said he was happy to report that in the coming weeks, there would be three more establishments opening. He said the commitment by the national chain Urban Outfitters was huge because it would bring people to town.

He acknowledged Margaret Mass from the Red Bank Visitor's Center and credited their partnership with NJTransit and other State organizations that has brought so many visitors to Red Bank. He noted the draw of the annual Kaboom Fireworks event and talked about the fact that it was successful this year thanks to the people who worked to replace the funding lost through a drop in corporate sponsorship. He said he had faith in the future and faith in people.

He said he wanted to take the opportunity to lobby through Senator Beck for consideration for centers of place that offer activities such as a transportation center, hospital, medical facilities, religious institutions, schools, etc. He said while these places made Red Bank a better place and a diverse community it also taxed its residents. He said he would like the incoming administration to acknowledge that State designated centers that have a certain percentage of tax exempt properties should receive some special allocation and recognition for their emergency management services, police and fire services and the infrastructure needed to host the people that come with the facilities. He said he would also like to see the incoming administration to change the Senior Freeze act. He said he was grateful that Gov. Corzine increased the threshold level but felt it still needed to be changed to eliminate the waiting period.

He said efforts would be put before the Council for changes to the Borough's collective bargaining agreements for all employees and to eliminate such matters as early as possible. He said the problem would again be finances. He said he was grateful to the Borough Attorney for taking the lead and agreeing to a twenty percent reduction in professional fees and noted that all other professionals have done the same thing. He said it was extraordinary in this day and age to have that kind of loyalty. He said parking issues will continue to be addressed in January in cooperation with RiverCenter. He said they will hopefully be introducing a better, more consumer oriented and driven management system and may replace the current anachronistic parking scheme. He said the issue of a parking garage was still being discussed as well as other aspects that would make Red Bank more competitive in the global workplace.

He said he wanted to reserve some comments for T&M Associates who had been the Borough engineers for a long time. He said in very difficult economic times, Red Bank was the recipient of almost \$5 million in additional assistance from State for infrastructure, development and rehabilitation. He said the

Borough received \$200,000 from the Department of Transportation for local aid and the Department of Environmental Protection provided over \$2 million in bulkhead improvements with an additional \$333,000 in site improvements. The Borough also received another \$290,000 for Count Basie turf improvements, he continued. He also noted that the landfill increases as well as the infrastructure water and utility charges were approximately \$1.8 million. He said the total that the Borough had received was \$4,915,121 and said that money would continue to make us competitive by going into infrastructure improvements. He thanked the Council for supporting the continuing effort to try to make Red Bank more affordable. He also noted the Borough had received \$2 million in funding from the Mortgage Finance Agency for Cedar Crossing, an affordable owner occupied townhouse development project. He said Monmouth County had given the Borough an additional \$500,000. He said the total the Borough had received from outside agencies, as well as the County, NJ Mortgage Finance Agency and the State totaled \$7.4 million. He called that an extraordinary amount and said it would not have been possible without having a really great team that made sure that the applications were thorough and well thought out. He said the Finance and Public Works committees offered input and CFO Mason cleared the final number with the Auditor. He said, at the end of the day, it was Engineer Ballard and T&M Associates that did the heavy leg work to make sure that when the Borough presented its application it was thorough, efficient and flawless and he thanked them for their efforts.

He closed by saying that municipalities were not made by bricks and mortar and that community was something that was built every day out of certain basic shared values. He said that was what they as a group and all who have supported them had tried to do. He said they tried to rebuild a town with an unmatched potential, unrivaled citizenry and unending desire to remain the heart and soul of our region. The glue that cemented all of the together, he continued, had been the residents. He said progress has been due to support they have given the Governing Body and their service as Council members paled in comparison to the volunteers, uniformed and civilian, as well as police, who devoted so much time to so many others. He said he honored their sacrifice and dedication and said it was a source of strength for the rest. He said the Borough's greatest strength was its people calling diversity not a weakness but a strength. He said it is the people who encourage them to continue to build Red Bank with shared values of working together, including all people and being receptive to all new ideas. He said together we will work together to be the best we possibly can.

BENEDICTION – Father Carotenuto

AUDIENCE

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Lewis, Zipprich, DuPont, Horgan, Lee, Murphy

NAYS: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi