

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
JANUARY 1, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

REORGANIZATION MEETING

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session and reorganization meeting on Wednesday, January 1, 2020, at 12:00 p. m, in the Municipal Complex Courtroom located at 100 Commons Way, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

Councilman Norgalis read the following announcement:

Notice of Meeting

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on December 5, 2019, by sending written and electronic notice to the Courier News and The Star Ledger; posting on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filing with the Township Clerk.”

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY TROOP 46
Boy Scout Troop 46 of Martinsville presented the Pledge of Allegiance and Presentation of Colors.

Invocation

The invocation was presented by Father Brian Nolan, Pastor of Church of Blessed Sacrament

Introduction of Dais Members

Councilman Norgalis introduced all those up at the dais including:

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator
Matthew C. Moench, Newly Elected Mayor
Michael Kirsh - Newly Elected Councilman
Allen Kurdyla - Veteran Councilman
Christopher Corsini - Township Attorney
Filipe Pedroso - Veteran Councilman
Timothy Ring - Newly Elected Councilman
Linda Doyle - Township Clerk
Grace Njuguna - Deputy Township Clerk
Krista Gaffney - Secretary to the Clerk Office

Recognitions

Council President Norgalis recognized the local dignitaries in the audience including:
Christine Henderson Rose - Councilwoman
Mike Doherty - Senator
Tom Kean, Jr. -Senator
Mark Caligure - Former Freeholder

Melanie Morano, Freeholder
Brian Levine - Freeholder
Manny Caravela - Former Police Chief
Dick Shimp - Retired Police Captain
Tim Howes- RVCC Trustee
Al Gaburo- County Republican Chairman
Mayor Ondeko - Manville
Former Mayor Ed Zimmerman - Rocky Hill
Former Mayor Liptak - Raritan
Janice Fields - Committeewoman Elect, Bernards
Bob Vaucher - Lt. Colonel (Ret)

**Certification
of Election**

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

Council Norgalis read the following:

A statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers of Somerset County, New Jersey, relative to an election held in the County of Somerset on November 3, 2015 for the election of the following mentioned offices in the Township of Bridgewater.

- One (1) Four-Year Mayoral Seat - The said Board does determine that Matthew C. Moench was duly elected Mayor.
- Two (2) Four-Year Township Council Seats - The said Board does determine that Michael Kirsh and Timothy Ring were duly elected to the Township Council.

**Oaths of
Elected
Office**

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor - Matthew C. Moench

Performed by Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk

Councilman - Michael Kirsh

Performed by Howard V. Norgalis, Councilman

Councilman - Timothy Ring

Performed by Theresa Ring, Notary

ROLL CALL

Councilman Michael Kirsh

Councilman Allen Kurdyla

Councilman Filipe Pedroso

Councilman Timothy Ring

Councilman Howard V. Norgalis

MAYOR MATTHEW C. MOENCH INAUGURAL ADDRESS

The address is appended to the official minutes. [\(Schedule A\)](#)

NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER STATEMENT

Michael Kirsh - Statement appended to the official minutes. ([Schedule B](#))

Timothy Ring - Statement appended to the official minutes. ([Schedule C](#))

Selection of Council President

SELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Pedroso nominated Councilman Norgalis to serve as Council President for the year 2020. Councilman Kirsh seconded the motion. The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

Councilman Michael Kirsh - Aye

Councilman Allen Kurdyla - Aye

Councilman Filipe Pedroso -Aye

Councilman Timothy Ring - Aye

Councilman Howard V. Norgalis - Abstain

Selection of Council Vice- President

SELECTION OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Council President Norgalis stated there was need to create this position in order that in the absence of the Council President, the Vice President assumes and exercises the powers and responsibilities of the Council President.

Council President Norgalis nominated Councilman Pedroso to serve as Council Vice-President for the year 2020. Councilman Ring seconded the motion. The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

Councilman Michael Kirsh - Aye

Councilman Allen Kurdyla - Aye

Councilman Filipe Pedroso -Abstain

Councilman Timothy Ring - Aye

Councilman Howard V. Norgalis - Aye

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MESSAGE

The message is attached to the official minutes. ([Schedule D](#))

Mayor Appointments with Advice and Consent

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT

Council President Norgalis read the following appointments.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT (Staff) READ BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT NORGALIS

APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL PAPPAS AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

APPOINTMENT OF NATASHA TURCHAN AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTINE MADRID AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

APPOINTMENT OF ROSE WITT, QPA AS PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL PAPPAS AS REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

CONFIRMING (THROUGH ADVICE AND CONSENT) THE APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTOPHER M. CORSINI, ESQ. AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW A/K/A THE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY, UPON APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40:69A-43(b) AND CHAPTER 4 (ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION), ARTICLE X (DEPARTMENT OF LAW), SECTION 4-49 OF THE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2020 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE LAW FIRM OF SAVO, SCHALK, GILLESPIE, O'GRODNICK & FISHER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$460,000.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR JANUARY 1, 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020

APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS GENOVA AS ACTING DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

COUNCIL ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM BURR AS ACTING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING CHIEF PAUL PAYNE AS ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: CHIEF MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR CARL A. TAYLOR, ESQ. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF SCARLETT DOYLE TOWNSHIP PLANNER AND AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020

AUTHORIZING QUALIFIED FIRMS FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR LABOR MATTERS AND CONSENTING TO CLEARY, GIACOBBE, ALFIERI & JACOBS, LLC, FLORIO, PERUCCI, STEINHARDT & CAPPELLI, LLC, AND RUDERMAN & ROTH, LLC AS THE LABOR COUNSEL FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020

On motion of Councilman Pedroso, second of Councilman Ring, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-01-01-001 through #20-01-01-012](#) are appended to the official minutes.

**Mayor
Appointments
with Advice
and Consent**

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT (Boards & Committees)

APPOINTMENTS TO CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE

Caitlin Annese
Adam Perle
Christine Juechter

APPOINTMENTS TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

JP Levin
Lauren Vescio
Belinda Li

APPOINTMENT TO HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Bruce Bongiorno

APPOINTMENT TO PARK BOARD

Chris Ireland
Susan Weideli
Suzanne Wright

APPOINTMENTS TO RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Lori Watson
Claudio Vescio
Mark Neubauber

APPOINTMENTS TO THE REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Matthew Moench
Michael Pappas
Wells Winegar
Filipe Pedroso
Timothy Ring -Alternate

APPOINTMENTS TO GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION

Thomas Genova
Timothy Ring - Council Representative
Michael Kirsh - Alternate

APPOINTMENTS TO RARITAN MILLSTONE FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION

Thomas Genova
Allen Kurdyla - Council Representative

APPOINTMENTS TO SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

Dr. Niren Choudury
Hubert Ling

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, second of Councilman Ring, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-01-01-013 through #20-01-01-021](#) are appended to the official minutes.

Mayor
Appointments
without
Advice and
Consent

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS WITHOUT ADVICE AND CONSENT READ BY TITLE BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT NORGALIS

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

Class I - Mayor Matthew C. Moench
Class II -Michael Pappas
Class IV - Henry Wang
Class IV - Alan Fross
Class IV, Alternate 2 - Maurizio Vescio

APPOINTMENT TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Howard Norgalis
Wells Winegar
Steve Rodzinak
Timothy Ring
Christine Madrid
Paul Payne
Richard Shimp

Dr. Gina Villani

APPOINTMENT TO THE SOMERSET COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thomas Genova
Howard Norgalis - Council Representative

APPOINTMENT TO SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM

Michael Pappas
Natasha Turchan, Alternate
Allen Kurdyla
Timothy Ring - Alternate

APPOINTMENT OF RISK MANAGER -JIF

Michael Pappas
Chris Corsini - Alternate

APPOINTMENT AS RISK MANAGER -HEALTH

Scott Readlinger, Round Hill Partners

APPOINTMENT AS RISK MANAGER - PROPERTY & CASUALTY

John Campbell, C&M Consulting Group

APPOINTMENT TO THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chris Ireland (Park Board Rep)
Maurizio Vescio (Planning Board Rep)
Mark Neubaurer (Recreation Board)

Council
Appointments
with advise
and consent

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVISE & CONSENT

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Robert B. Cagnassola -Suplee, Clooney & Co.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER

Linda J. Doyle, RMC

APPOINTMENT OF TAX SEARCH OFFICER

Darrow Murdock

APPOINTMENT OF CLASS III PLANNING BOARD MEMBER

Michael Kirsh

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Dawn Guttschall - Regular Member
John Fallone - Regular Member

Jeffrey Foose - Alternate 1
Daniel Ahern - Alternate 2
Donna Kelly - Alternate 3
Andrew Fresco - Alternate 4

APPOINTMENTS TO BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR PREVENTION OF ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

Timothy Ring
Jeff Danco

APPOINTMENTS TO THE SOMERSET REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Toni Hoffman
Willem Rijksen
Kenneth Burdi - Alternate

APPOINTMENTS TO THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Yan Ren
James Weideli
Dave Stempien

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, second of Councilman Kurdyla the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-01-01-022 through #20-01-01-029](#) are appended to the official minutes.

**OATHS OF OFFICE FOR STAFF, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES
ADMINISTERED BY CHRISTOPHER CORSINI ESQ., TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY**

Resolutions The following resolutions were read by Council President Norgalis by title:

GENERAL BUSINESS

The General Business resolution sets certain rates, designates the Courier News as the Township Official Newspaper for all legal Notices and The Breeze as the online newspaper it also names certain department heads specific authorities to operate in 2020.

2020 TOWNSHIP COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The Schedule of Meetings set the 2020 Township Council Meeting Dates throughout the year; they are also posted on the website.

TEMPORARY BUDGET - CURRENT FUND

The Current Fund Temporary Budget is set not to exceed 26.25% of the 2019 year’s budget to meet obligations and payments due prior to approval of the budget for 2020.

TEMPORARY BUDGET - SEWER FUND

The Sewer Fund Temporary Budget is set not exceed 26.25% of the 2019 year’s budget to meet obligations and payments due prior to approval of the 2020 budget

ESTABLISHING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN AND NAMING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

The Cash Management Plan is prepared pursuant to the provisions of NJSA 40A 5-14 in order to set forth the basis for deposits and investments and name certain depositories for Township funds.

AUTHORIZING ACTING BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP ENGINEER WILLIAM H. BURR, IV. PE OF THE FIRM OF MASER CONSULTING TO EXECUTE NJDEP, NJDOT, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND SOMERSET COUNTY PERMITS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP

It is required to name by resolution and authorizes William Burr, P.E. as Township Engineer to sign permits from NJDOT, NJDEP, State of New Jersey and Somerset County on behalf of the Township.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, second of Councilman Kurdyla the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-01-01-030 thru #20-01-01-035](#) are appended to the official minutes.

Meeting Open to Public MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting was opened to the public.

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak, unless there are unusual circumstances.

Claudia Bateman of 94 Catherine Place in Bridgewater addressed Council. She thanked Mayor Moench for appointing her to the Municipal Alliance for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse and welcomed the new members. She also congratulated everyone that was elected, appointed and hired.

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Ring, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Adjournment On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 pm.

Benediction Presented by Rabbi Dan Selsberg of Temple Sholom

Council President Norgalis invited all attendees on behalf of Mayor Moench for refreshments at a reception held at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant from 2-4 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Howard Norgalis
Council President