



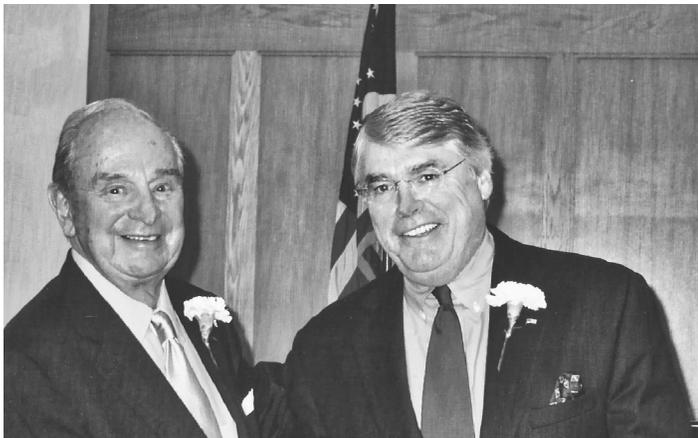
John E. Ekdahl

"It has been my honor and privilege to serve the residents of Rumson for my time in office. In leaving, I feel confident that we have had some achievements together helping to make Rumson a unique and great place to reside."

Honoring His Honor

On May 22, 2018, the Borough of Rumson adopted a Resolution of Appreciation for retired Mayor John E. Ekdahl, who served our wonderful community with honor, pride and dignity for 14 years as Mayor and 9 years as Councilman.

John was appointed to the Rumson Borough Council on December 7, 1995, a position he held until elected to his first term as Mayor on January 1, 2004. In total, John began his service to the Borough of Rumson in 1975 when he was first appointed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. For more than four decades, John has served the community of Rumson, including most recently the Emergency Services Committee and Building Committee while Mayor.



Jan. 1, 2004: Former Mayor Charles S. Callman and Mayor John E. Ekdahl

John settled in Rumson in 1957 where he attended Holy Cross School and was a member of the first graduating class of Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft in 1963. After attending Villanova University, John graduated from Belknap College in New Hampshire in 1968. John and his wife Mary Lynne "Lolly" raised their two sons John and Daniel in Rumson where they attended Rumson schools. John is now currently completing his career in the financial industry as a First Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor of the local branch of Merrill Lynch in neighboring Red Bank.

In addition to the time he spends volunteering in Rumson, John is also a valued Board Member of the Count Basie Theater in Red Bank and was asked recently to be on the Advisory Board after his term on the "Basie" is completed on or about June 1st; until recently, John was also a Board Member of the Community YMCA of Red Bank; and was a member of the Two Rivers Council of Mayors, which includes the Borough of Rumson and Mayors from eleven (11) surrounding communities in the Shrewsbury and Navesink Rivers areas; and he was also a Member of the Sandy Hook REUSE Committee working on the redevelopment of Sandy Hook; and has been a longtime member of the congregation of Holy Cross Church.

A few noteworthy accomplishments in Rumson during John's service as Councilman and Mayor are:

- The redesign of Victory Park for families to enjoy time together on the picturesque Navesink River, thru the generosity of a Rumson family;

- Various Park and Recreation Improvements including, but not limited to, the reconstruction of Riverside Park and the acquisition of what has come to be known as "the crew site", adjacent to Victory Park;
- The complete rebuilding and restoration of Rumson's Bingham Hall Community Center enjoyed by residents for many different events throughout the year, as well as, the annual January 1st Reorganization Meeting of the Borough Council;
- The very successful Rumson Endowment Fund was formed and John has been an active Chairman and proponent of the Fund for the betterment of Rumson, to ease the burden on taxpayers, while investing in the future of the Borough;
- Major road paving and drainage improvements which resulted in the paving of over 23 miles of roadway, curb and sidewalk installation and pedestrian safety improvements;
- The Borough's Recycling Program continues to be one of the best in the State, with a riverfront Recycling Center that has now become a social meeting place;
- The concept development, design and construction of the Borough of Rumson Municipal Complex including the construction of the new Rumson Borough Hall, the renovation of the Courthouse, and the renovation and expansion of the Department of Public Works Building;
- Directing operations during and recovery after major "named" storm events, including both snow and hurricane events such as the well-known Super Storm Sandy which caused in excess of \$8 million worth of storm cleanup and damage to Borough Infrastructure;
- The complete upgrade of the two largest Borough wastewater pumping stations followed by the rebuilding of nine out of eleven pump stations that were damaged by Super Storm Sandy;
- The application, award and completion of Community Resiliency Planning Grants, totaling over \$400,000, which allowed the Borough to successfully upgrade its Hazardous Mitigation Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, re-examined and published the Borough's Master Plan, the addition of a GIS Database, and digitizing Borough Tax Maps, to name just a few;
- The privatization of garbage and recycling collection throughout the Borough;
- The acquisition of more than 16 Department of Public Works vehicles to allow the Borough to continue to offer a high level of services to our residents;
- The purchase of three fire trucks and two ambulances.
- Rumson has achieved and maintained an Aaa

Stable Bond Rating from Moody's Investors Service for its sound financial condition due to prudent financial management and Rumson was noted to be a leader in municipal financial management by the firm;

- Established a partnership with Monmouth University for an Environmental Field Station on the Navesink River.

John E. Ekdahl has received numerous awards over the years, including being inducted into the New Jersey League of Municipalities Elected Officials Hall of Fame for his service to our wonderful community; and his record of public service speaks for itself. He is one of the most dedicated, extraordinary, volunteer public servants in the history of this Borough. John's dedication and love for Rumson and its residents are unequalled; his integrity, courageous leadership, intelligence, compassion and sense of humor have earned him the great respect and affection of his colleagues, the Borough employees, and the residents of Rumson.

The Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson acknowledges by Resolution the forty three (43) years of dedicated, volunteer public service of John E. Ekdahl as Volunteer, Councilman and Mayor of Rumson, and we hereby extend our utmost appreciation for his able leadership and courage that he has steadfastly demonstrated during his tenure as Rumson's Mayor.

On behalf of the members of the Borough Council and the residents of Rumson with our utmost respect, affection, appreciation and best wishes to John E. Ekdahl and we wish John and his wife, Lolly, a happy, healthy and well-deserved retirement from Public Service.



May 22, 2018: Mayor Joseph K Hemphill and Former Mayor John E. Ekdahl

Rumson Borough Council is pleased to announce that Council President Joseph K. Hemphill was sworn in on May 22nd as Mayor to serve the remaining term of John E. Ekdahl. Joe is a lifelong resident of Rumson. He and Robin, his wife, also a lifelong resident have raised their two children in Rumson where they attended the Rumson Public Schools. Joe has been a member of the Borough Council for the twelve years and Borough Council Present for the past four years. During his terms, Joe has chaired the Building Committee which under his direction, was responsible for the construction of the new Borough Hall and its campus including the Dept. of Public Works and the Recycling Center. Joe was instrumental in rebuilding the Borough's infrastructure after Super Storm Sandy. We are fortunate to have a man of his experience serving the residents of Rumson.

Joe is excited for the challenge ahead. *"It is a great honor to become Mayor of the town you grew up in and love. I will work my hardest to keep our town as beautiful and financially sound as my predecessor."*

Important Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge Information

The Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge over the Shrewsbury River will operate on an alternative marine traffic schedule, opening on the hour on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from May 25th through September 3rd as part of a trial test period this summer.

The Monmouth County Department of Public Works and Engineering requested that the U.S. Coast Guard consider an alternative schedule in attempt to balance the seasonally high volume of roadway traffic during peak hours with the needs of marine traffic.

Previously, the bridge opened on the hour and half hour from May 15th through September 30th. The Coast Guard will make a final decision on the future bridge marine opening schedule based on data collected during the test period, as well as public comments.

RUMSON BOROUGH BULLETIN
POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL
RUMSON, NEW JERSEY 07760

RRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 321
 Red Bank, N.J.

BOROUGH OF RUMSON
 RUMSON, NEW JERSEY 07760