

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF RUMSON
JANUARY 6, 2025

The Re-Organization Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2025 and was called to order by Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Hemphill, Councilmembers Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery and Smith.

Absent: Pumphrey and Lospinuso.

Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, was present.

David Marks, Borough Engineer, was present.

Eric Paone-Hurd, Deputy Municipal Clerk/Communication Coordinator, was present.

Mitchell Jacobs, Borough Attorney, was present.

Mayor Hemphill declared a quorum present and announced that the Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met for this meeting by:

- The posting and mailing of the annual meeting notice in advance thereof to the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River Times*.
- The posting of the meeting agenda, on the Borough of Rumson Website (www.rumsonnj.gov).

INVOCATION:

Rabbi David Amar, of Congregation B'nai Israel, gave the Invocation.

Mayor Hemphill thanked Reverend Rabbi David Amar.

ROLL CALL (OLD COUNCIL):

Present: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery and Smith.

Absent: Pumphrey and Lospinuso.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

On motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Casazza, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written, copies having been forwarded to all Council members. All in favor.

CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION:

The Municipal Clerk read a statement of the results of an election held in the Borough of Rumson on the 4th day of November, in the year two thousand and twenty-five to elect Municipal Officials for said Rumson Borough made by the Board of County Canvassers of Monmouth County, as submitted by Christine G. Hanlon.

Names of Persons Voted for and
Offices Designated for Each:

BOROUGH COUNCIL (FULL-TERM)

J. CLAYTON KINGSBERY (R)

MICHAEL F. LOSPINUSO (R)

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION:

On motion by Councilmember Casazza, seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Certificate of Elections was ordered accepted and that the Certificate of Elections be filed on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinuso.

ADMINISTER THE OATHS OF OFFICE:

Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill administered the oath of office to Councilmember J. Clayton Kingsbery as his grandson, Teddy, held the Bible.

ROLL CALL (NEW COUNCIL):

Present: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

Absent: Pumphrey and Lospinuso.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

Councilmember Kingsbery moved to proceed to the election of a President of the Council for 2026 and nominated Councilmember Conklin as President of the Council. Motion seconded by Councilmember Casazza. All in favor.

There being no further nominations, Councilman Conklin was elected President of the Council on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinuso.

Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill, as he held the Bible, administered the oath of office to Council President John J. Conklin III.

MAYOR'S LETTER NAMING COMMITTEES:

January 6, 2026

To the Honorable Council of the
Borough of Rumson, New Jersey

Dear Members of the Council:

I take this means of naming the following Standing Committees of the Council, which I trust will meet your approval and sanction:

The Mayor and Council members serve on the following Council Committees:

First Name—Chairman

	Second Name—Vice-Chairman
<u>Administration and Operations</u> (Finance, Admin, Insurance, HR, Cyber)	<u>Conklin</u> , Kingsbery, Smith
<u>Public Safety Committee</u> (Police, EMS, Fire, OEM)	<u>Hemphill</u> , Conklin, Casazza
<u>Communications</u> (PR, Website, SM)	<u>Pomphrey</u> , Conklin
<u>Public Works, Utilities & General Infrastructure</u> (DPW, Sewer, Public Buildings, Roads, Storm water, Bridges)	<u>Kingsbery</u> , Smith
<u>Construction and Engineering</u> (Construction Office, Zoning, Planning, Engineering)	<u>Casazza</u> , Hemphill
<u>Planning Board Representative</u>	Casazza
<u>Planning Board Mayor's Alternate</u>	Kingsbery
<u>Historic Preservation Liaison</u>	Kingsbery
<u>Environmental Commission Liaison</u>	Pomphrey
<u>Shade Tree Commission Liaison</u>	Pomphrey
<u>Recreation Liaisons</u>	Conklin
<u>Affordable Housing Committee</u>	<u>Hemphill</u> , Conklin, Lospinuso
<u>Navesink River Municipal Community Group</u>	<u>Pomphrey</u>
<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Hemphill</u> , Kingsbery

Conklin moved that the Council, in acting upon the appointments submitted by the Mayor, concur in confirmation of all. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lospinuso and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

At this time, Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill swore in Rumson Municipal Judge Nicole Sonnenblick, whom was joined by her daughter Ashley.

Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill also swore in Rabbi David Amar of, Congregation B'nai Israel, whom was joined by Rumson Police Chief Robert Boyer.

RECOGNITION OF BOROUGH OF RUMSON STAFF:

Mayor Hemphill thanked the members of the Borough of Rumson staff, Rumson Police Department and Rumson Department of Public Works for all their efforts in 2025.

SWEARING IN OF RUMSON EMS OFFICERS:

Mayor Hemphill thanked 2025 Captain Doug Rossbach for his service.

The Mayor administered the oath of office to Captain Elze-Ann Strohmenger. Mayor Hemphill congratulated Captain Strohmenger and wished her well in his position for 2026.

SWEARING IN OF FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Mayor Hemphill thanked 2025 Fire Chief Kevin McCarthy for his service.

The Mayor administered the oath of office to Fire Chief Nicholas Luiten. Mayor Hemphill congratulated Chief Luiten and wished him well in his position for 2026.

Mayor Hemphill invited new Assistant Fire Chief Mike Trivett for 2026 to come forward. The Mayor administered the oath of office to Assistant Fire Chief Trivett. Mayor Hemphill congratulated Assistant Chief Trivett and wished him well in his position for 2026.

BENEDICTION:

Rabbi David Amar, of Congregation B'nai Israel, gave the Benediction.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

ANNUAL BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MUNICIPAL PROFESSIONALS FOR 2026.

2026-0106-01

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MUNICIPAL PROFESSIONALS FOR 2026

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the services for the following professionals for the Borough of Rumson as authorized by R.S.40A:11-5:

Municipal Attorney, Bond Counsel, Special Counsels, Municipal Auditor, Municipal Prosecutor, Alternate Municipal Prosecutors, Borough Planner, Municipal Public Defender, Labor Attorney, Planning Board Attorney, Zoning Board of Adjustment Attorney, and Consulting Engineers, Tax Appeal Attorney; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the annual audit for the calendar year 2026 as required by R.S.40A:5-4; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law, R.S.40A:11-1, et. seq., requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids must be published no more than ten (10) days following the adoption thereof:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson as follows:

1. The Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed, in behalf of the Borough, to:
 - a. retain Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs, LLC, Attorneys at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Municipal Attorney for

- the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and

 - b. retain the Law Firm of McCarter & English, Attorneys at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Bond Counsel and said law firm is hereby appointed to that position for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - c. retain the Law Firm of Surenian, Edwards, Buzak & Nolan LLC, an Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Special Counsel and said Attorney is hereby appointed to that position for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - d. execute an agreement with Holman Frenia Allison, P.C. of Red Bank, N.J. to perform the Borough's 2024 Annual Audit in accordance with R.S.40A:5-4 and said firm is appointed to perform that and all other accounting services necessary; and
 - e. retain Anthony J. Vecchio, Esq., an Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - f. retain William McGuinn, Esq., an Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Alternate Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - g. retain Kendra Lelie, PP, AICP, LLA of Kyle + McManus Associates, to perform the services of Borough Planner for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - h. retain Raymond Raya, Esq., an Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Municipal Public Defender for the year 2026 pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - i. retain the Law Firm of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri and Jacobs, LLC, Attorneys at Law in the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Labor Attorney for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S. 40A:11-5; and
 - j. retain Michael B. Steib, Esq., Attorney at Law in the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Planning Board Attorney for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - k. retain Michael B. Steib, Esq., Attorney at Law in the State of New Jersey, to perform the services of Zoning Board of Adjustment Attorney for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S.40A:11-5; and
 - l. retain the engineering firms of Colliers Engineering & Design., T&M Associates, Cranmer Engineering, Stantec Engineering, and Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc, for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S. 40A:11-5; and
 - m. retain the firm Dilworth Paxson LLP for Rumson Tax Appeal Attorney for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S. 40A:11-5.
 - n. retain Brown & Brown for broker of record for employee benefits for the year 2026, pursuant to R.S. 40A:11-5.
2. Said Municipal Attorney, Bond Counsel, Special Counsel, Municipal Auditor, Municipal Prosecutor, Alternate Municipal Prosecutors, Borough Planner, Municipal Public Defender, Labor Attorney, Planning Board Attorney, Zoning Board of Adjustment Attorney, Consulting Engineers and Tax Appeal Attorney are retained and appointed to the above offices and said Auditor is awarded a contract pursuant to R.S. 40A:11-5 without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because the service rendered or performed is to be done by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession and whose profession and practice is regulated by law and bids are not required per R.S.40A:5-11.
3. A copy of this resolution shall be published in the *Asbury Park Press* or *Two River Times* as required by law within ten (10) days of its passage.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Smith and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION FIXING TIME AND PLACE AND ADOPTING THE ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL.

2026-0106-02

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION FIXING TIME AND PLACE AND ADOPTING THE ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson that the standard time and place for the regular meetings of the Borough Council in the year 2026 will be and the same are hereby fixed as the second Tuesday of each month at the hour of 7:30 o'clock p.m., at the Charles S. Callman Courtroom/Council Chamber of Borough Hall, 80 East River Road, Rumson, N.J. In addition, brief work sessions of the Council will be held after each regular meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that work sessions of the Borough Council be held on the first, third, fourth and fifth Tuesdays of each month at 4:00 p.m., when needed, at the Charles S. Callman Courtroom/Council Chamber of Borough Hall; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if there is a holiday or scheduling conflict on the regularly scheduled meeting dates, the meeting shall be scheduled to another date and/or time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice thereof in the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River Times* for one publication.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that the following shall be the order of business to be observed in conducting the Borough meetings during the current year:

1. – Roll Call.
2. – Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting.
3. – Communications.
4. – Reports of Committees.
5. – Unfinished Business.
6. – Annual Business. (Re-organization meeting only).
7. – New Business.
8. – Consideration of Bills and Claims.
9. – Comments.
10. – Adjournment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rumson Borough Council and the Mayor welcome comments, suggestions and inquiries from residents of Rumson. To that end, provision is made for a public discussion period at each meeting. It is listed as: "Public Discussion" – near the end of the meeting where any topic may be addressed. Each comments session is limited to thirty (30) minutes; any one person may address the Council for a maximum of three (3) minutes; once a particular topic has been addressed by a member of the public, subsequent comments on that same topic by other people is limited to a maximum of two (2) minutes; citizens who have spoken once during the session will be recognized a second time only after all others have been heard a first time; and, for the record speakers are required to state their names and addresses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event a Borough Council meeting needs to be held remotely, for any reason including but not limited to a state of emergency or a public health crisis, the Rumson Borough Council and the Mayor will hold meetings electrically, utilizing a widely recognized communication platform accessible by both audio and video connections, or an audio-only teleconferencing program. Program utilized will support the ability for Borough Council to mute all members of the public and members of the public to mute themselves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that a Borough Council meeting needs to be held remotely, the meetings of the Borough Council in the year 2026 will take place on the third Tuesday of each month at the hour of 4:30 o'clock p.m.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that a Borough Council meeting needs to be held remotely, and there is a holiday or scheduling conflict on the remote scheduled meeting date, the meeting shall be scheduled for another date and/or time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that a Borough Council meeting needs to be held remotely, the Municipal Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice thereof in the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River times* for one publication. In addition, notice will also be published on the Borough of Rumson website at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time, along with the meeting agenda; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all virtual meeting access details, meeting Agenda and instructions for public comment shall be posted on the Borough of Rumson website at www.rumsonnj.gov at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson will observe the regularly scheduled order of business for any and all remote meetings during the calendar year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rumson Borough Council and the Mayor will conduct the "Public Discussion" during a remote meeting with the same guidelines as a regularly scheduled meeting. Based on the remote program being utilized for the meeting, instructions for public comment will be posted on the Borough of Rumson website and will be read by the Municipal Clerk at the start of the "Public Discussion" element(s) of the meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED should there be a disruptive member of the public during the "Public Comment" segment of said meeting, the Borough of Rumson official representative shall mute, or direct authorized personnel to mute, the disruptive member of the public. Should disruption from the same individual continue after warning, the individual will be prevented from speaking during the remainder of the meeting or be removed from the remote public meeting completely; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED disruptions are categorized as, but not limited to, shouting, interruption, and use of profanity.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

2026-0106-03

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN
OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON**

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 of the Local Fiscal Affairs Law requires that every local unit shall adopt a “Cash Management Plan” and shall deposit in an interest bearing account, all available public funds pursuant to the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Rumson, hereby adopts the following “Cash Management Plan” policy to be utilized by the Borough of Rumson for the year 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Borough Auditor, and Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Rumson (Monmouth County).

CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Cash Management Plan (the “Plan”) is prepared pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-14 in order to set forth the basis of deposits (“Deposits”) and investment (“Permitted Investments”) of certain public funds of the Borough of Rumson, pending the use of such funds for the intended purposes. The Plan is intended to assure that all public funds identified herein are deposited in interest bearing Deposits or otherwise invested in Permitted Investments herein after referred to. The intent of the plan is to provide that the decisions made with regard to the Deposits and the Permitted Investments will be done to insure the safety, the liquidity, (regarding its availability for the intended purposes), and the maximum investment return within such limits. The plan is intended to insure that any Deposit or Permitted Investment matures within the time period that approximates the prospective need for the funds deposited or invested so that there is not a risk to the market value of such Deposits or Permitted Investments.

II. DEFINITIONS

“Arbitrage” refers to the rules and regulations governing the issuance of bonds or notes and the reinvestment of the proceeds at higher yield. These regulations are promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service, Regulation 1.103.

“Certificate of Eligibility” is the certification issued by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, Division of Banking that a Public Depository is eligible to act as a depository for public funds and qualifies as a participant in the New Jersey Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act, GUDPA.

“GUDPA” requires a bank that accepts public funds to be a public depository. A “Public Depository” is defined as a state bank, a national bank, a savings bank or association which is located in the State of New Jersey, the deposits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and which received or holds public funds on deposit. A local unit may make deposits in, or purchase certificates of deposit from, banks which are located in New Jersey and which meet the requirements of the “GUDPA”.

“The New Jersey Cash Management Fund.” The New Jersey Division of Investment is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52-18A-90.4 to establish, maintain and operate, with the approval of the State Investment Council and the State Treasurer, a common trust fund known as the State of New Jersey-New Jersey Cash Management Fund (the “Fund”). The Fund is authorized to accept deposits from all Local Units of government. The Fund is a “common trust” fund pursuant to the statute that created such funds within the jurisdiction of the Division of Investment. According to the enabling legislation, monies of Local Units deposited in the Fund must be invested in obligations and bonds that meet the investment requirements of the statute. These obligations include, among other things, evidences of indebtedness of U.S. corporations. These obligations are less secure than those permitted to Local Units under the Act. Thus, the Fund is riskier than direct investments in federal securities or GUDPA protected deposits by Local Units.

III. IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS TO BE COVERED BY THE PLAN

A) The Plan is intended to cover the deposit and/or investment of the following funds and accounts of the Borough of Rumson:

- Current Fund
- Grant Fund
- All Trust Funds
- Capital Funds
- Bond & Interest Fund
- Rumson Endowment Fund, Inc.

B) The Plan is not intended to cover the deposit and/or investment of the following Funds and Accounts of the Borough of Rumson

1. Petty Cash/Change Funds
2. Cash drawn from a Federal Agency under a letter of credit which cash has to be paid out within 5 working days to a vendor.
3. Deposit, retainage, or amounts posted by way of bond, held by the Borough for such things as faithful performance, if the Borough would be required by law to pay back any interest earned to the provider of the deposit, except where the Borough is required by law or court decision to invest the fund.
4. Amounts derived from the sale of bonds or notes, only to the extent that a specific written opinion of counsel states that the earning of (full) interest would result in the bonds or notes being classified as an arbitrage (not Federally Tax Exempt) issue pursuant to federal regulations. To the extent that some interest is allowable, it shall be deposited at the most favorable rate obtainable.

IV. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON AUTHORIZED TO MAKE DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The Municipal Clerk/Administrator and/or CMFO, (The “Designated Official”) is hereby authorized and directed to deposit and/or invest, or designate professionals with extensive training and certification in Local Government Finance to deposit and/or invest, the Funds referred to in the plan. Prior to making any such deposits or any Permitted Investments, such officials of the Borough of Rumson are directed to supply to all depositories or any other parties with whom the Deposits or Permitted Investments are made a written copy of this Plan which shall be acknowledged in writing by such parties and a copy of such acknowledgement kept on file with such officials.

V. STANDARDS OF CARE

1. The Designated Officials involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution and management of the investment program, or that could impair their ability to make impartial decisions.
2. The Designated Officials shall disclose any material interests in the financial institutions with which business is conducted and they shall refrain from undertaking personal investment transactions with the same individual with whom business is conducted on behalf of the Borough of Rumson.
3. The Borough Clerk/Administrator, is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control. The controls should ensure that the assets of the Borough are protected from loss, theft, or misuse.

VI. PROCEDURES FOR THE RECEIPT OF MONIES

A) Department Procedures

1. A receipt shall be issued in duplicate for all transactions involving the receipt of cash. A copy of the receipt shall be given to the paying party and the duplicate shall be maintained by the receiving department. All payments and receipts must be recorded.

2. All monies collected or received from any source by or on behalf of the Borough shall be forwarded to the Finance Department to be deposited within forty eight (48) hours of receipt to the designated bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A : 5-15.
3. All monies received shall be placed in a secured place until forwarded for deposit.
4. No department, division or agency shall engage in the practice of cashing checks with public funds. Cashing of employee pay checks is prohibited.

B) "Designated Official" or Tax Collector

1. The Municipal Administrator/Clerk, or an official designated the Municipal Administrator/Clerk by shall:
 - a. Deposit all monies collected or received from any source by or on behalf of the Borough within forty eight (48) hours of receipt to the designated bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-15.
 - b. Ensure that all monies deposited are in interest bearing accounts.
 - c. Make recommendations of legal public depositories to the Borough Council who shall by resolution designate said depositories at the first meeting of the calendar year.
 - d. Ensure that each of the various accounts for which there is a separate bank statement is reconciled with that bank statement by the end of the following month.
 - e. Verify that designated official depositories submit to the Chief Financial Officer a copy of the State of New Jersey, Department of Banking and Insurance, Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act notification of Certificate of Eligibility, which must be filed semi-annually in the Department of Banking as of June 30* and December 31st of each year.

VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES

The following Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA) approved banks and financial institutions are hereby designated as official depositories for the deposit of all public funds referred to in the Plan, including any certificates of deposits which are not otherwise invested in permitted investments as provided for in this Plan".

PROVIDENT BANK
 OCEANFIRST BANK
 BANK OF AMERICA
 CITIZENS BANK
 PNC BANK
 TD BANK
 VALLEY NATIONAL BANK
 WELLS FARGO

All such depositories shall acknowledge in writing receipt of this Plan by sending a copy of such acknowledgement, as well as, GUDPA certificates to the Designated Official(s) referred to in Section III above.

VIII. AUTHORIZED ACCOUNT SIGNERS

A) All checks, warrants, notes and other financial papers for the Borough of Rumson Municipal Court and Municipal Court Bail be signed by the Appointed Municipal Court Judge or Municipal Court Administrator or Deputy Municipal Court Administrator or Deputy Municipal Court Administrator.

B) All checks warrants, notes and other financial papers for the Borough of Rumson Payroll Account be signed by two of the following appointed officials: Mayor, or in their absence by the Council President, Chief Financial Officer, or in his absence Tax Collector or Finance Assistant, Municipal Clerk or in their absence Deputy Municipal Clerk.

- C) All checks, warrants, notes and other financial papers for Borough of Rumson bank accounts not listed above be signed by the appointed Mayor, or in his absence by the Council President, countersigned by Chief Financial Officer, or in their absence Tax Collector or Finance Assistant and countersigned by Municipal Clerk, or in his absence, Deputy Municipal Clerk.
- D) All checks, warrants, notes and other financial papers for the Rumson Endowment Fund, Inc. be signed by two of the following appointed officials: Chairman, Director, Administrator, Financial Officer.
- E) All transfer of funds between Borough of Rumson Accounts be authorized by the appointed Chief Financial Officer, or in their absence Tax Collector or Finance Assistant, or by Municipal Clerk, or in their absence, Deputy Municipal Clerk.
- F) All Domestic Wire transfers and ACH transactions be prepared and authorized for release on their individual authority to the bank, by the appointed Chief Financial Officer, or in their absence Tax Collector or Finance Assistant, or by Municipal Clerk, or in their absence, Deputy Municipal Clerk; however, no such Domestic Wire transfer or ACH transaction shall be initiated for release until it has been internally verified, verbally, by one of the appointed officials designated above to authorize the transaction; however, the official verifying the transaction must be someone other than the official who prepared it and authorized its release.

IX. AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS

Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Designated Official is hereby authorized to invest the public funds covered by this Plan, to the extent not otherwise held in Deposits, in the following Permitted Investments

- A) When authorized by a cash management plan approved pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14, any local unit may use moneys which may be in hand for the purchase of the following types of securities which, if suitable for registry, may be registered in the name of the local unit:
 - a. Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America
 - b. Government Money Market Mutual Funds
 - c. Any Obligations that a Federal Agency or a Federal Instrumentality has issued in accordance with an Act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor.
 - d. Bonds or other obligations of the Local Unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the Local Unit is a part or within which the school district is located.
 - e. Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Investment of the Department of the Treasury for investment by Local Units.
 - f. Local Government Investment pools.
 - g. Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1977, c. 281 (C.52:18A-90.4) or
 - (i) The underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs 1" and "3" of this subsection a;

- (ii) The custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
- (iii) The maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
- (iv) The underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L. 1970, c.236 (c. 17:9-41); and
- (v) A master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.

B) Any investment instruments in which the security is not physically held by the local unit shall be covered by a third-party custodial agreement which shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the local unit and prevent unauthorized use of such investments.

C) Purchase of investment securities shall be executed by the "delivery versus payment" method to ensure that securities are either received by the local unit or a third-party custodian prior to or upon the release of the local unit's funds

D) Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of the purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1967, c93. (C.49:3- 56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in borrowing on such U.S. Government Securities.

E) For purposes of this section:

A "government money market mutual fund" means an investment company or investment trust:

- a. Which is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the "Investment Company Act of 1940," 15 U.S.C. Sec. 80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. sec. 270. 2a-7, except that a government money market mutual fund may not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates regardless of whether permitted to do so under 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7;
- b. The portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of any eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec. 270. 2a-7, securities that have been issued by New Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law," P.L. 1983, C.313 (c.40A:5A-1 et seq.) that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. s.270.2a-7, and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (a), (c), and (e) of subsection A of this section;
- c. Which is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

A "Local Government Investment Pool" means an investment pool:

- a. Which is managed in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles for local government investment pools established by the Government Accounting Standards Board;

- b. Which is rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
- c. Which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7, securities that have been issued by New Jersey school districts, municipalities, counties, and entities subject to the “Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law,” P.L. 1983, C313 (C.40A:5A-1 et seq.) that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that collateralized by such securities in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (a), (c), and (e) of subsection A of this section;
- d. Which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L. 1968, c.410 (c.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which may promulgate rules providing for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments.
- e. Which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
- f. Which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a National or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L. 1967 c.9 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in an borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.
- g. Which does not impose liquidity fees or redemption gates.

X. SAFEKEEPING CUSTODY PAYMENT

To the extent that any Deposit or Permitted Investment involves a document or security which is not physically held by the Borough of Rumson, then such instrument or security shall be covered by all custodial agreements with an independent third party. Such institution shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the Borough of Rumson to assure that there is no unauthorized use of the funds or the permitted investments or deposits. Purchase of any Permitted Investments that involve securities shall be executed by a “delivery versus payment” method to insure that such Permitted Investments are either received by the Borough of Rumson or by a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the Borough of Rumson’s funds.

To assure that all parties with whom the Borough of Rumson deals either by way of deposits or permitted Investments are aware of the authority and the limits set forth in this plan, all such parties shall be supplied with a copy of this plan in writing and all such parties shall acknowledge the receipt of that plan in writing, a copy of which shall be on file with the designated official(s).

XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

On the fifteenth day of each month during which this Plan is in effect, the Designated Officials referred to in Section IV hereof shall supply to the governing body of the Borough of Rumson a written report of any Deposits of Permitted Investments made pursuant to this Plan, which shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- a. All investments made or redeemed over the past month;
- b. Each organization holding local unit funds;
- c. The amount of securities purchased or sold, class or type of securities purchased, book value, earned income, fees incurred and market value of all investments to date; and
- d. Such other information as may be required by the governing body.

Any official involved with the selection of depositories, investments, broker/dealers shall disclose any material business or personal relationship to the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Rumson and to the Local Finance Board or Local Ethics Board as applicable.

Any official who, in the course of his or her duties, deposits, or invests in accordance with this plan shall be relieved of any liability or loss.

XII. IMPORTANT NOTES ON CASH MANAGEMTN PLANS:

Investment in notes issued by New Jersey municipalities, counties, fire districts and boards of education, as well as the other permitted municipal debt obligations referenced above, must be authorized by a cash management plan adopted or amended by the governing body. Local Finance Notice CFO-1997-14 further discusses cash management plans and local government investment; however, since the issuance of that Notice, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 was amended by P.L. 2018, c. 40 to authorize the deposit of funds in deposit accounts (including certificates of deposit) subject to the following conditions:

- The funds are initially invested through a public depository participating in the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (“GUDPA”);
- The designated public depository arranges for the deposit of funds in deposit accounts in one or more federally insured financial institutions, for the account of the local unit;
- 100% of the principal and accrued interest of each deposit is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund;
- The designated public depository acts as custodian for the local unit with respect to those deposits; and
- On the same date that the local unit’s funds are deposited in one or more federally insured institutions, the designated public depository receives an amount of deposits from other customers of other financial institutions, wherever located, equal to the amount of funds initially invested by the local unit through the designated public depository.

XIII. DIVERSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Chief Financial Officer shall closely examine investments to guard against the effects of a financial institution going into default. This may be accomplished through the practice of spreading the investments among the various designated official depositories when feasible.

XIV. INVESTMENT PROCEDURES:

Bids for Certificates of Deposit and Repurchase Agreements will be solicited of at least three (3) designated depositories only if the amount is \$100,000 or greater. Telephone bids will be solicited of designated depositories by the Chief Financial Officer or designated staff member.

The depository shall specify the principal amount of the investment bid on, interest rate and number of days used to calculate the interest to be paid upon maturity.

Interest paid shall be from the date the bid was awarded to the day of maturity.

All bidders may request the results of the bid after the bid is formally awarded.

A check or wire transfer of funds will be made available to the winning bidder on the same business day the bid is awarded.

Each quotation shall be documented to record the date and time of quote, the parties in the discussion, the instrument(s), maturities and rates. A bid form of the Borough may be used.

XV. CONTROLS:

When possible, the internal controls should provide for separation of the investment placement functions and the accounting activity. Controls must be designated for telephone orders, wire transfers and securities safekeeping. Only specifically designated personnel shall be allowed to conduct this part of the transactions, and all activity should be subject to immediate written confirmation by the designated depository.

XVI. BOROUGH AUDITOR

The Borough Investment practices (including compliance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14) and the agreement for banking services and compensation thereof shall be reviewed by the Borough Auditor as part of the annual audit, as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4. Where a conflict exists between this Cash Management Plan and State Statute, the applicable State Statute shall apply.

XVII. SURETY BONDS

- a. The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer shall be covered by surety bonds. During the annual audit, the Borough Auditor shall examine said bonds to determine that proper coverage has been obtained.
- b. Staff members of the Chief Financial Officer's office, other than the Treasurer (See a. above), shall be covered by a public employee's faithful performances bond in the minimum amount of \$10,000.

XVIII. TERM OF PLAN

This Plan shall be in effect from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026. The Plan may be amended from time to time. To the extent that any amendment is adopted by the Council, the Designated Official is directed to supply copies of the amendments to all of the parties who otherwise have received the copy of the originally approved Plan, which amendment shall be acknowledged in writing in the same manner as the original Plan was so acknowledged.

XIX. CONFLICT

Where a conflict exists between this Cash Management Plan and State statute, this applicable State statute shall apply.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CREDIT CARD AND ELECTRONIC CHECK PAYMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 ET. SEQ.

2026-0106-04

Councilmember Conklin offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF
CREDIT CARD AND ELECTRONIC CHECK PAYMENTS FOR
MUNICIPAL FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 ET. SEQ.**

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services has promulgated regulation, N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 et seq., authorizing municipalities to accept credit card or electronic transfer payments in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, in order for a municipality to accept credit card or electronic transfer payments, a resolution must be adopted by the governing body authorizing the same and stating the type of obligations which can be paid by electronic receipt and the types of electronic receipt that will be permitted; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Borough Council to authorize the payment of municipal fees, taxes, utility payments and other charges to the full extent permitted by law; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of credit cards for payments of these fees, costs or charges must be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, as follows:

1. That the Borough of Rumson authorizes any Municipal office or agency to accept credit card or electronic payments of municipal fees, taxes, utility payments and other charges that may be due to any municipal agency to the full extent authorized by law.
2. That the use of credit cards for payment is subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough Chief Financial Officer.

Seconded by Councilmember Kingsbury and carried upon the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbury, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING TEMPORARY BOROUGH BUDGET

2026-0106-05

January 6, 2026

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING TEMPORARY BOROUGH BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.40A:4-19 provides that where any contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2026 budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of 2026; and

WHEREAS, 25.00% of the total appropriations in the 2025 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for debt service, capital improvement fund and public assistance in said 2025 budget, is the sum of \$6,392,788.44;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for her records:

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:

(A) Operations

1. General Government **2026 Temp**

ADMINISTRATIVE and EXECUTIVE

Salaries and Wages	\$73,000.00
Other Expenses	\$51,000.00
Other Expenses- Record Retention	\$500.00

MUNICIPAL CLERK

Salaries and Wages	\$44,500.00
Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
Elections	\$500.00

FINANCE

Salaries and Wages	\$49,000.00
Other Expenses	\$12,500.00

AUDIT SERVICES

Other Expenses	\$42,500.00
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TAX COLLECTION

Salaries and Wages	\$22,000.00
Other Expenses	\$7,500.00

TAX ASSESSMENT

Salaries and Wages	\$17,500.00
Other Expenses	\$17,000.00

LEGAL

Other Expenses	\$45,000.00
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ENGINEERING

Salaries & Wages	\$85,000.00
Other Expenses	\$33,000.00

2. Land Use Administration

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Salaries and Wages	\$31,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$9,000.00
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3. Code Enforcement and Administration

FIRE PROTECTION OFFICIAL

Salaries and Wages	\$1,500.00
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CONSTRUCTION CODE OFFICIAL

Salaries and Wages	\$71,500.00
Other Expenses	\$10,500.00

UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY	\$2,000.00
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4. Public Safety

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Salaries and Wages	\$610,000.00
Other Expenses	\$75,000.00
Purchase of Police Vehicles	\$50,000.00

POLICE DISPATCH /911

Salaries and Wages	\$97,000.00
911 Annual Contract	\$6,500.00

FIRST AID ORGANIZATION

Salaries and Wages	\$1,700.00
Other Expenses	\$6,000.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Salaries and Wages	\$3,000.00
Other Expenses	\$15,000.00

MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR

Other Expenses	\$4,000.00
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5. Public Works

STREETS and ROADS

Salaries and Wages	\$350,000.00
Other Expenses	\$55,000.00

SEWER SYSTEM

Salaries and Wages	\$30,000.00
Other Expenses	\$90,500.00

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
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SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

Contractual	\$200,000.00
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BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Other Expenses	\$30,000.00
Property Lease	\$2,500.00

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Other Expenses	\$50,000.00
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6. Health and Human Services**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Contracted Services	\$25,000.00
Other Expenses	\$300.00
Hepatitis B Vaccine Costs	\$100.00

7. Parks and Recreation**RECREATION**

Salaries and Wages	\$40,000.00
Other Expenses	\$3,000.00

8. MUNICIPAL COURT

Salaries and Wages	\$18,500.00
Other Expenses	\$2,000.00

9. PUBLIC DEFENDER

Other Expenses	\$1,000.00
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10. Utility and Bulk Purchases

STREET LIGHTING	\$23,000.00
FIRE HYDRANTS	\$45,000.00
TELEPHONE	\$12,000.00
ELECTRICITY	\$50,000.00
GAS (NATURAL OR PROPANE)	\$28,000.00
WATER	\$18,000.00
GASOLINE	\$50,000.00
LANDFILL/SOLID WASTE	\$175,000.00

INSURANCE

General Liability	\$275,100.00
Employee Group Health	\$600,000.00

Homeland Security

OEM	
Other Expenses	\$3,000.00

CONTINGENT	\$1,000.00
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Statutory Expenditures:

P.E.R.S.	\$100.00
SOCIAL SECURITY	\$92,000.00
P.F.R.S.	\$100.00
D.C.R.P	\$1.00

SEWER AUTHORITY SHARE OF COSTS	\$475,500.00
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Aid to Oceanic Library	\$100.00
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Shared Service Agreement	
Fair Haven Construction Salaries and Wages	\$34,000.00
Fair Haven Construction Other Expenses	\$5,000.00
Fair Haven Court Salaries and Wages	\$12,000.00
Fair Haven Court Other Expenses	\$1,000.00
Fair Haven Fire Prevention Salaries and Wages	\$1,500.00
Little Silver Construction Salaries and Wages	\$38,000.00
Little Silver Construction Other Expenses	\$6,000.00
City of Asbury Park – Rescue Services	\$22,650.00
Holmdel: Other Expenses	\$5,000.00
Middletown: Other Expenses	\$3,000.00
 SUBTOTAL	 \$4,388,151.00
 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	 \$100,000.00
PRINCIPAL ON BONDS	\$540,000.00
PRINCIPAL ON NOTES	\$419,048.00
INTEREST ON BONDS	\$97,000.00
GREEN TRUST	\$25,503.00
 TOTAL	 \$5,569,702.00

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Smith and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinuso.

MOTION TO REFER 2026 TENTATIVE BOROUGH BUDGET OF APPROPRIATIONS TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND MAYOR & AUTHORIZE THE ANNUAL BOROUGH AUDIT FOR 2025:

Councilmember Conklin moved that the matter of submitting a Tentative Budget of Appropriations for 2026 be referred to the Finance Committee and the Mayor in order that same may be prepared for consideration and approval by the Council at a later date and moved the Finance Committee be authorized to have the books of accounts of the departments of The Borough Government audited, pursuant to the law governing such matters.

Motion seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Smith.

**RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON
DELINQUENT TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND MUNICIPAL SEWER CHARGES**

2026-0106-06

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST
TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT TAXES,
ASSESSMENTS AND MUNICIPAL SEWER CHARGES**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the governing body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for non-payment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of taxes becoming delinquent after due date and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00 becoming delinquent after due date and if a delinquency is in excess of \$10,000.00 and remains in arrears beyond December 31st, an additional penalty of 6% shall be charged against the delinquency.
2. Effective January 1, 2026, there will be a ten (10) day grace period of quarterly tax payments made by cash, check or money order.
3. Any payments not made in accordance with paragraph two of this resolution shall be charged interest as set forth in paragraph one of this resolution from the due date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 18% per annum on any delinquent municipal sewer charges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be provided by the Municipal Clerk to the Tax Collector, the Borough Attorney and the Borough Auditor for the Borough of Rumson.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO HOLD A TAX SALE OF
DELINQUENT TAXES AND TO CHARGE FEES INCURRED IN TAX SALE NOTICE.**

2026-0106-07

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO
HOLD A TAX SALE OF DELINQUENT TAXES AND TO
CHARGE FEES INCURRED IN TAX SALE NOTICE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provision of R.S. 54:5-9 et seq., the Tax Collector is allowed to conduct a Tax Sale for the purpose of enforcing the collection of delinquent taxes in the Borough against which such delinquent taxes are in arrears for the prior fiscal year, in the manner and form prescribed in said Statute, on or before the 31st day of December 2026; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-26 provides for direct mailing of the Tax Sale Notice in lieu of up to two legal advertisements, not exceeding a cost of \$25.00 for each mailing; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends two direct mailings so that the cost of the Tax Sale process is borne by the delinquent property owners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, that pursuant to the provision of R.S. 54:5-9 et seq., the Tax Collector be authorized and directed to conduct a Tax Sale in the manner and form prescribed in said Statute on or before the 31st day of December 2026 for the purpose of enforcing the collection of delinquent taxes in the Borough against which such delinquent taxes are in arrears as of **November 11, 2025**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector is authorized to send two direct mailings and collect a charge of \$25.00 each in compliance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-26; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to include in said sale any and all unpaid sewer taxes as of November 11, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough Tax Collector.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Smith.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR TO ACT AS AGENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILING AND SETTLING TAX APPEALS ON BEHALF OF THE TAXING DISTRICT FOR THE TAX YEAR 2026

2026-0106-08

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR TO ACT AS AGENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILING AND SETTLING TAX APPEALS ON BEHALF OF THE TAXING DISTRICT FOR THE TAX YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor is knowledgeable regarding the valuation and assessment of properties in the Borough of Rumson; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has the statutory responsibility, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4- 23 to 36 to set assessments for properties in the Borough of Rumson under the Local Property Tax, N.J.S.A. 54:4-1 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Taxing District deems the Tax Assessor to be responsible and acting in the best interests of the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Rumson, that the Tax Assessor is hereby authorized to act as agent for the Taxing District without further governing body approval to:

(a) determine when tax appeals, cross appeals, complaints and counterclaims should be filed on behalf of the Taxing District with regard to any property located in the Borough of Rumson and accordingly direct the attorney for the Taxing District to file such documents with either the County Tax Board or Tax Court of New Jersey as deemed appropriate.

(b) resolve and settle tax appeals pending before the County Tax Board, Tax Court or Appellate Courts for any tax year and authorize the attorney for the Taxing District to formalize such settlement in the appropriate Courts and/or County Tax Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Matthew Clark, Monmouth County Board of Taxation, Mitchell Jacobs, Borough Attorney and Erick Aguiar.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PRE-PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS AND CLAIMS

2026-0106-09

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PRE-PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS AND CLAIMS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson has budgeted funds for payment of utilities, payroll, debt service, governmental fees, insurance, contractual obligations and mailing costs of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the payment of these items frequently arrives out of time for placement on the next available list of bills and claims, thereby inadvertently placing these bills and mailings in arrears because of the schedule of meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Chief Financial Officer has advised that the Governing Body may provide for the pre-payment of these items, so that they may be paid in a timely manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized to make pre-payment of the following fixed items prior to the same appearing on the next meeting's list of bills and claims:

1. Utilities (electric, gas, water, and telephone).
2. Payroll
3. Debt service as evidenced by pre-existing bonds and notes.
4. Health, dental and other insurance premiums.
5. Federal, state and county fees.
6. Postage for tax bills, newsletter, and other Borough mailings.
7. School taxes.
8. Third party fees collected through Recreation registrations.

9. Recreation credit card refunds.
10. Contractual obligations for Shared Services.
11. Tax Overpayment Refunds
12. Contractual obligations for awarded contracts.
13. Items deemed necessary for Pre-Payment by the Chief Financial Officer conditioned upon consent of the Administrator or his designee, and the Finance Committee Chair or his designee.
14. Pre-Paid Police Services eligible for refunds.
15. Eligible refunds from the Rumson Trust Fund.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION SETTING BID THRESHOLD AND APPOINTING A TEMPORARY QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT

2026-0106-10

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION SETTING BID THRESHOLD AND APPOINTING AN INTERIM QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3a permits an increase in the bid and quote thresholds, up to \$53,000.00 and \$7,950.00 respectively, if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed as well as granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq., established criteria for qualifying as a Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, newly appointed Rumson CMFO Helen Graves has the experience to hold this position; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Council of the Borough of Rumson that Helen Graves be appointed as the Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

2026-0106-11

Councilmember Smith offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, the Municipal Court requires the position of Municipal Court Administrator; and

WHEREAS, Michele R. Smallze, whose one-year term as Municipal Court Administrator expired as of December 31, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson that Michele R. Smallze be appointed to a one-year term as Municipal Court Administrator effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pompfrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEPHANIE STACK POLICE DETECTIVE FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM

2026-0106-12

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEPHANIE STACK AS POLICE DETECTIVE FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson, based on the recommendation of the Police Committee, through its Police Department, has the need for a Police Detective; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council Police Committee has recommended that Senior Patrol member Stephanie Stack be appointed to the position of Police Detective for a 1-year term; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with the Police Committee's recommendation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that Senior Patrolman Stephanie Stack be appointed to the position of Police Detective effective January 1, 2026 with an annual stipend of \$750.00 as specified in the current P.B.A. contract.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Smith and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pompfrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT OF RUMSON POLICE PERSONNEL

2026-0106-13

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT OF

RUMSON POLICE PERSONNEL

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled Chapter II, Administration, has been adopted following public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-11.17 of said Ordinance provides that a Resolution be adopted to establish the rates of compensation for outside employment of off-duty Rumson Police personnel; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to fix the rates of compensation for outside employment of off-duty Rumson Police personnel; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to set the Administrative Fee for 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that the rates of compensation of off-duty Rumson Police personnel for outside employment are hereby fixed for calendar year 2026 as follows:

All functions, including traffic control services, that are determined to be police-related and are to be billed through the Borough will be at a rate of One Hundred Dollars and 44 Cents (\$105) per hour per officer. The minimum charge payable for Public Schools for such services shall be equal to a minimum of two (2) hours for each officer contracted for with the Borough. The minimum charge payable for all other services shall be equal to a minimum of four (4) hours for each officer contracted for with the Borough. A cancellation fee equal to such minimum charge per officer shall be due and payable to the Borough where the request for such service is cancelled less than one (1) hour in advance of the scheduled services. Police Officers shall receive time and one-half pay on the holidays recognized in the contract with the Association. Special Police Officers shall receive time and one-half pay on the holidays established by the Borough of Rumson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following rates are hereby fixed for the administrative fee for calendar year 2026:

The Borough shall charge the public school, contractor or third party an additional Nineteen Dollars and Sixty Six Cents (\$20) per hour per officer in order to cover expenses incurred by the Borough resulting from off-duty employment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total cost for all off-duty work for the calendar year 2026 shall be One Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$125.00):

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above rates shall be effective January 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and Chief of Police.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried upon the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING TWO OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR BOROUGH USE

2026-0106-14

January 6, 2026

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING TWO OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR BOROUGH USE

WHEREAS, Section 3d of the Open Public Meetings act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 requires that certain notices of meetings be submitted to two (2) newspapers, one of which shall be the official newspaper; and

WHEREAS, the second newspaper designated by this body must be one which has the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the jurisdictional boundaries of this body of such meeting.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The *Asbury Park Press* of Tinton Falls, N.J. (#1) and the *Two River Times* of Red Bank, N.J. (#2) are hereby designated to receive all notices of meetings as required under the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. It is the opinion of this body that the *Asbury Park Press*, and the *Two River Times* have the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the jurisdictional area of this body of such meetings.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH PHOTOCOPY FEES

2026-0106-15

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH PHOTOCOPY FEES

BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson hereby sets the fees for copies requested under the State Open Public Records Act for 2026 as follows:

Fees
\$.05 per page for letter size pages and smaller
\$.07 per page for legal size pages and larger

If the actual cost to produce a copy of a record exceeds the above fees, then the cost can be calculated by the formula set forth by the Government Records Council.

Electronic Copy Requests

No fee will be charged for requests delivered electronically (via fax or e-mail).

Police Motor Vehicle Accident Reports Requested Via Mail

A \$5.00 fee to cover the administrative cost of mailing the report will be added to the total cost of the page copies according to the above fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforementioned fees are effective January 1, 2026 and in conformance with State requirements.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE HOURLY BILLING RATE FOR THE BOROUGH ENGINEER

2026-0106-16

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE HOURLY BILLING RATE FOR THE BOROUGH ENGINEER

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer, from time to time, will be responsible to review various development applications and permits on behalf of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body shall establish the hourly rate for reimbursing the Borough for direct fees, costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Borough Engineer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson hereby establishes the annual hourly billing rate of the Borough Engineer at One Hundred Fifty Dollars per Hour (\$150.00/hour) in accordance with Ordinance Chapter 2-26.3; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE

2026-0106-17

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE

BE IT RESOLVED that Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, is hereby appointed as Borough Community Development Representative for the Monmouth County Community Development Program and David Marks, Borough Engineer as the Alternate Community Development Representative for the Borough of Rumson for 2026.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRSENTATIVE FOR AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, AND JOINT INSURANCE FUND AND ALTERNATE

2026-0106-18

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRSENTATIVE FOR AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, AND JOINT INSURANCE FUND AND ALTERNATE.

BE IT RESOLVED that Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, is hereby appointed as Affirmative Action Officer, Borough representative for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Borough representative to the Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund and Municipal Excess Liability Fund and Safety Officer for the Borough of Rumson for 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Eric Paone-Hurd, Deputy Municipal Clerk/Communication Coordinator, is hereby appointed as the Borough's Alternate representative to the Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund and Municipal Excess Liability Fund and Safety Officer for the Borough of Rumson in 2026.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER

2026-0106-19

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-18.1 requires the Governing Body to provide, by resolution, for the making of official certificates of searches as to municipal improvements authorized by ordinance of the municipality, but not assessed, affecting any parcel or tract of land in said municipality in that a future assessment will be made thereon pursuant to such ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize and appoint Michele Carnesi to serve in the position of Assessment Search Officer providing the necessary documentation and certification as per N.J.S.A. 54:5-18.1, until such time a resolution stating otherwise is adopted; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Assessment Search Officer.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TAX SEARCH OFFICER

2026-0106-20

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TAX SEARCH OFFICER

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-11 requires the Governing Body to designate, by resolution, a bonded official of the municipality to make examinations of its records as to unpaid municipal liens and to certify the result thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby appoint Michele Carnesi to the position of Tax Search Officer and Matt Palmer to the position of Deputy Tax Search Officer until such time a resolution stating otherwise is adopted; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Search Officer.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON FOR THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, MONMOUTH COUNTY

2026-0106-21

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON FOR THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, MONMOUTH COUNTY

WHEREAS, The Borough of Rumson's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan promotes an affordable housing program pursuant to the Fair Housing Act (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et. seq.), applicable Council on Affordable Housing ("COAH") regulations and Uniform Housing Affordability Controls ("UHAC") regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is required to appoint a Municipal Housing Liaison ("MHL") to assist the Borough's affordable housing professionals with the administration of Rumson's affordable housing program, and to help enforce the requirements of applicable COAH and UHAC regulations, the Borough's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, and the Borough's affordable housing ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of Rumson Borough in the County of Rumson, and the State of New Jersey that Thomas S. Rogers, Borough Administrator, is hereby appointed by the Governing Body of Rumson Borough as the Municipal Housing Liaison for the administration of the affordable housing program, pursuant to and in accordance with Chapter 23-17 of Rumson Borough's Code.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pompfrey, Lospinusso.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON THROUGH THE RUMSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE, 1033 PROGRAM TO ENABLE THE RUMSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

2026-0106-22

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

BOROUGH OF RUMSON
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON THROUGH
THE RUMSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE
LOGISTICS AGENCY, LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE, 1033 PROGRAM
TO ENABLE THE RUMSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND
ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress authorized the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program to make use of excess Department of Defense personal property by making that personal property available to municipal, county and State law enforcement agencies (LEAs); and

WHEREAS, DLA rules mandate that all equipment acquired through the 1033 Program remain under the control of the requesting LEA; and

WHEREAS, participation in the 1033 Program allows municipal and county LEAs to obtain property they might not otherwise be able to afford in order to enhance community preparedness, response, and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, although property is provided through the 1033 Program at no cost to municipal and county LEAs, these entities are responsible for the costs associated with delivery, maintenance, fueling, and upkeep of the property, and for specialized training on the operation of any acquired property; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-30.2 requires that the governing body of the municipality or county approve, by a majority of the full membership, both enrollment in, and the acquisition of any property through, the 1033 Program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson that the Rumson Police Department is hereby authorized to enroll in the 1033 Program for no more than a one-year period, with authorization to participate terminating on December 31st of the current calendar year from January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Rumson Police Department is hereby authorized to acquire items of non-controlled property designated "DEMIL A," which may include office supplies, office furniture, computers, electronic equipment, generators, field packs, non-military vehicles, clothing, traffic and transit signal systems, exercise equipment, farming and moving equipment, storage devices, and containers, tools, medical and first aid equipment and supplies, personal protection equipment and supplies, construction materials, lighting supplies, beds and sleeping mats, wet and cold weather equipment and supplies, respirators, binoculars, and any other supplies or equipment of a non-military nature identified by the LEA, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this Resolution authorizes, based on the needs of the Rumson Police Department, without restriction; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rumson Police Department is hereby authorized to acquire the following "DEMIL B through Q" property, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this Resolution authorizes: (SEE ATTACHED LIST); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rumson Police Chief shall develop and implement a full training plan and policy for the maintenance and use of the acquired property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rumson Police Department shall provide a quarterly accounting of all property obtained through the 1033 Program which shall be available to the public upon request; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately and shall be valid to authorize requests to acquire "DEMIL A" property and "DEMIL B through Q" property that may be made available through the 1033 Program during the period of time for which this Resolution authorizes; with Program participation and all property request authorization terminating on December 31st of the current calendar year from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING NICOLE SONNENBLICK AS RUMSON MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

2026-0106-23

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING NICOLE SONNENBLICK AS RUMSON MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Nicole Sonnenblick, Esquire be and is hereby appointed to a full three-year term as Rumson Municipal Court Judge effective January 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution of appointment be sent to Judge Nicole Sonnenblick for her records.

Motion seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

**SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON &
THE BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT FOR CERTAIN LICENSED FINANCIAL SERVICES**

2026-0106-24

Councilmember Kingsbury offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON
& THE BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT
FOR CERTAIN LICENSED FINANCIAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, both the Borough of Rumson (“Provider”) and the Borough of Sea Girt (“Recipient”) have been formed in compliance with the applicable statutes and both parties wish to enter into an agreement for shared services pursuant to NJSA 40A:65-1 et seq

The parties hereto agree as follows:

- A. This Agreement shall be effective from February 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028 inclusive.
- B. The Provider shall provide the services of its certified Chief Municipal Financial Officer (CMFO) and Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) to the Recipient at the Recipient’s expense.
- C. The Provider’s CMFO shall be responsible for the proper financial administration of the Recipient, including the duties set forth in N.J.S.A. 52:27BB-26 et seq., N.J.S.A 40A:9-140.1, et seq. , and the Recipient’s Borough Code, Chapter II, Section 2-11, et seq. The Chief Financial Officer shall:
 1. Receive funds entrusted, received or under the control of any department and deposit all funds received by him/her in depositories authorized by the Governing Body by resolution.
 2. Have custody of all investments and invested funds of the Borough or in possession of the Borough in a fiduciary capacity, except as otherwise provided by law, and keep such funds and all moneys of the Borough not required for current operations safely invested or deposited in interest bearing accounts.
 3. Have the safekeeping of all bonds and notes of the Borough and the receipt and delivery of the Borough bonds and notes for transfer, registration or exchange.
 4. Keep a full account of all case receipts and disbursements of the Borough and at least once each month, or more often if the Governing Body requires, furnish the Governing Body with a statement of all moneys received and expended by him/her.
 5. The CMFO shall provide on-site services at the Recipient’s Municipal Offices for one day a week with a maximum of 40 hours on average per month and be available to support staff for telephone consultation as needed.
 6. The Recipient shall provide the CMFO with a laptop computer and provide remote login credentials to the CMFO and maintain said equipment and access through the term of the Agreement.
 7. The Recipient is responsible for the cyber security of the Recipient’s data and systems.
- D. The Recipient currently employs two support staff members who perform daily functions necessary to the operations of the Finance Department and will continue to provide such support staff throughout the term of the Agreement.
- E. The CMFO/QPA shall also review and approve purchases necessary to the operation of the Recipient in compliance with state and local statutory limitations.
- F. The Recipient shall make quarterly payments to the Provider for the services as follows:
 1. For the year 2026, \$45,000 in quarterly payments of \$11,250.00 due on the 1st of April, the first payment will be prorated to reflect the February 1, 2026 start date, July, October and the 15th of December, 2026;
 2. For the year 2027, \$50,000 in quarterly payments of \$12,500.00 due on the 1st of April, July, October and the 15th of December, 2027;

3. For the year 2028, \$50,000 in quarterly payments of \$12,500.00 due on the 1st of April, July, October and the 15th of December, 2028
4. Representatives of the Provider and the Recipient shall meet regularly, or as needed, to review the Agreement's terms and conditions. In the event the parties cannot agree on suggested amendments or Agreement revisions, either party shall have the right to then terminate the Agreement 90 days after providing written notification to the other party.
5. In the event that the Provider is unable to perform pursuant to the terms of this Agreement due to the unexpected extended absence of the CMFO/QPA, the Provider shall notify the Recipient as soon as possible and their authorized representatives shall meet to discuss available options.

G. All actions shall be held in Monmouth County Superior Court and that the agreement is in accordance with all NJ Laws.

H. This agreement shall take effect immediately upon the approval of both Governing Bodies and the passage of the enabling resolution as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that the Administrators of both Rumson and Sea Girt work with the Borough Attorneys from both towns to finalize the Shared Service Agreement using the information supplied in this Resolution and Standard Shared Services Language; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Mayor and Borough Administrator to be authorized to execute the agreed upon final SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON & THE BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT FOR CERTAIN LICENSED FINANCIAL SERVICES; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to The Borough of Sea Girt along with the signed agreement.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE / SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH OCTOBER 1, 2018 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2028

2026-0106-25

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE / SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH OCTOBER 1, 2018 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2028

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson ("Borough") and the County of Monmouth ("County") are authorized to enter into shared services agreements pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Borough have prepared a written agreement titled "Municipal Assistance Agreement" (the "Agreement"), providing for municipal assistance/shared services as more fully described therein and in Exhibit A attached to the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement term is October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2028; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has reviewed the Agreement and desires to authorize execution of the Agreement in the form presented, subject to review and approval of the Borough Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk is authorized to take any necessary action required to file or otherwise process the Agreement as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Authorization to Execute. The Mayor and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized to execute the Municipal Assistance Agreement between the Borough of Rumson and the County of Monmouth for the term October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2028, in substantially the form presented to the Borough Council.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption, retroactive to the date agreement was signed.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH,
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEDIATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON AND FAIR SHARE HOUSING CENTER**

2026-0106-26

Councilmember Smith offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH,
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEDIATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON AND FAIR SHARE HOUSING CENTER**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the March 2024 amendments to the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et. seq. (the “FHA”), the Borough of Rumson (hereinafter “Borough”) filed a Declaratory Judgment Action on January 23, 2025 with the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program (hereinafter “the Program”) and the Court; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain immunity from all Mount Laurel lawsuits, the Borough was required to prepare a Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan (the “Fourth Round HEFSP”), which the Borough’s Planning Board adopted, the Borough Council endorsed, and the Borough submitted to the Program and the Court for review on June 18, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Fair Share Housing Center (“FSHC”) filed a challenge with the Program and the Court to the Borough’s Fourth Round HEFSP on August 27, 2025; and

WHEREAS, in order to resolve FSHC’s challenge before the Program and the Court, the Borough and FSHC negotiated a settlement and drafted a Mediation Agreement, which outlines a global settlement between the Borough and FSHC, and sets forth certain deadlines that must be met by the Borough moving forward in the process, so that the Borough can obtain a Compliance Certification approving its Fourth Round HEFSP, which will give the Borough immunity from all Mount Laurel lawsuits, including builder’s remedy lawsuits, through July 1, 2035; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON That the Borough Council hereby authorizes and directs

the Mayor of the Borough of Rumson to execute the Mediation Agreement between the Borough and Fair Share Housing Center, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

2026-0106-27

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

WHEREAS, Matthew Palmer, Chief Financial Officer for the Borough of Rumson, retired on December 31, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson has a need for a Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, Helen Graves, a retired, long-time employee of the Borough of Rumson, and holds the qualifications necessary to fill the role;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson hereby appoint Helen Graves to fill the unexpired four-year term as Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Rumson pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.13, such term to expire on December 31, 2026, as of January 1, 2026 on a part-time hourly basis of \$100.00 per hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Payroll Clerk.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Smith and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinus.

RESOLUTION FIXING SALARIES OF CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTEES

2026-0106-28

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION FIXING SALARIES OF CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTEES

WHEREAS, an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF BOROUGH OFFICERS AND CERTAIN BOROUGH EMPLOYEES IN THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON, NEW JERSEY” has been introduced and will be adopted following public hearing; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance provides for salary ranges of various job titles and positions; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to fix the salaries of those individuals who hold such positions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that the salaries of the officers and employees holding the positions set forth below, and subject to the salary ranges set forth in the aforementioned ordinance, are hereby fixed effective January 1, 2026, unless stated otherwise, as follows:

TITLE OF POSITION	2026 SALARY AS TITLE OF POSITION OF JANUARY 1, 2026	Notes
Deputy Municipal Clerk/Communication Coordinator	\$79,000	
Administrator's Assistant/Registrar	\$80,080	
Business Administrator	\$114,549	
Municipal Clerk	\$114,549	
Assistant to Municipal Administrator	\$55,000	
Tax Assessor	\$68,881	
Tax Collector	\$88,200	
Temporary CFO/QPA Hourly Rate	\$100/hr	
Full Time CFO/QPA	\$190,000	Feb 1 to July 31
Full Time CFO/QPA	\$195,000	Aug 1 to Dec 31
Project Manager	\$136,537	
Municipal Engineer	\$200,199	
Land Use & Development Official	\$122,004	
Construction Official	\$153,831	
Building Subcode Official	\$128,807	
Technical Assistant	\$70,019	
Senior Technical Assistant	\$101,764	
Court Administrator	\$74,160	
Court Judge	\$25,750	
Part-Time Court Clerk	\$25/hr, \$100/session	
Recreation Director	\$100,000	Jan 1 to June 30
Recreation Director	\$105,000	July 1 to Dec 31
Recreation Coordinator	\$74,900	
Chief of Police	\$187,110	
Executive Assistant, Records Clerk	\$61,800	
SLEO II	\$41,600	
SLEO III	\$40/hr	
SLEO I	18.00/hr	
Police Department Dispatcher	18.00/hr	
Crossing Guard	\$50/hr	
Superintendent of Public Works	\$142,500	
Foreman of Public Works	\$98,000	
Part-Time DPW Laborer	\$28/hr	
Fire Prevention Officer	\$11,474	
Fire Custodian - Luiten	\$5,994	
Fire Custodian - Hand	\$5,994	
EMS Custodian	\$6,755	
Plumbing Subcode Official	\$62,109	
Fire Sub Code Official	\$30,570	
Part Time Sub Code	\$42.50/hr	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above rates shall be retroactive to January 1, 2026.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried upon the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR VICTORY PARK

2026-0106-29

Councilmember Conklin offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR VICTORY PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson has the need to purchase playground equipment and installation from an authorized vendor under the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) cooperative, ID #65MCESCCPS; and

WHEREAS, MRC, Inc (Marturano Recreation Company), PO Box 106, Spring Lake, NJ 07762 has been awarded a contract through bid #ESCNJ 24/25-01 Playground Equipment, Site Furnishings, Outdoor Circuit Training Equipment & Related Products, for the period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer is confirming the pricing for the acquisition and installation from MRC, Inc; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the replacement and installation of a new playground and related items is estimated to be no greater than \$800,000; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds as shown on the attached Purchas Order utilizing Recreation, Capital and the Endowment Funding; and

WHEREAS, the combination of both funds will more than cover the cost of the project as put forth by the Borough Administrator and Borough Engineer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough Rumson that, upon confirmation of ESCNJ cooperative pricing the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue Purchase Order(s), in an amount not to exceed \$800,000, for the acquisition and installation of Playground and Related Equipment for Victory Park; and

Seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried upon the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinusso.

2025 APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION

2026-0106-30

Councilmember Kingsbery offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

2025 APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to expend for certain purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the respective amounts appropriated therefore, and there shall be an excess in one or more appropriations; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson (by 2/3 vote) that the following transfers between appropriations be and the same are hereby approved:

TO:		
Recreation Salaries / Wages		\$ 10,000.00
	Total:	\$ 10,000.00
FROM:		
Recreation Other Expenses		\$ 10,000.00
	Total:	\$ 10,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized and directed on January 6, 2026 to debit and credit said accounts for 2025 accordingly.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Conklin and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pumphrey, Lospinusso.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EMPLOYEMENT CONTRACT OF ROBERT BOYER AS RUMSON CHIEF OF POLICE

2026-0106-31

Councilmember Casazza offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EMPLOYEMENT CONTRACT OF ROBERT BOYER AS RUMSON CHIEF OF POLICE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson has the need for a Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson wishes to retain the services of Robert Boyer as Chief of Police and Robert Boyer was appointed on March 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson's Police Committee and Robert Boyer have reached an agreement for a new contract for January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Police Committee has recommended the ratification of the same contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk/Administrator be authorized to execute the contract documents between the Borough of Rumson and Robert Boyer.

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Smith and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT THE MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

2026-0106-32

Councilmember Smith offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT THE MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

WHEREAS, the current three-year term of the Rumson Municipal Engineer, David M. Marks, expired on March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140 provides that the next appointment shall be made for a new three-year term, effective as of the date of expiration of the current term, such appointment to be made by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to reappoint David M. Marks, as the Municipal Engineer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson that David M. Marks be and is hereby reappointed to the position of Municipal Engineer, such term to run for three (3) years retroactive to previous expiration date (April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2028).

Resolution seconded by Councilmember Casazza and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Casazza, Kingsbery, Smith.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS:

Mayor Hemphill read his 2026 Mayor's Address, which will be on file at Rumson Borough Hall.

Mayor Hemphill read his 2026 Mayor's Address, which will be on file at Rumson Borough Hall.

Happy New Year! As 2026 begins, I again want to thank EVERY Volunteer and EVERY Employee, all of whom have worked so hard to make Rumson the special community it is. I especially want to thank the Rumson Borough Administrative Staff, Rumson Police Department, the Rumson Fire Department, the Rumson First Aid Squad and the Rumson Department of Public Works for their hard work, untiring dedication, and, most importantly, for the risks they take every day to protect the quality of life we cherish in Rumson. I am sincerely hopeful that 2026 will be a great year, starting with peace and good health for everyone.

And now, the following is a report of The Borough events and activities of 2025 and a brief look forward to the New Year and 2026.

The Borough Council

The Borough Council Members have once again met the year's challenges with diplomacy and with the dignity that would be expected from such an experienced group. I applaud each of you for the contributions you have made on behalf of all the residents of Rumson, and I extend my heartfelt thanks for your support and assistance throughout the past year.

On behalf of all Council members, it remains our honor and privilege to serve our community as your volunteer elected representatives.

Major Community Events

Rumson is a small, close-knit town with a great deal of pride and community spirit. Each year, numerous community events bring our residents together for fun and, often, to benefit worthy causes. Some events are sponsored by The Borough while others are organized by independent groups, but all contribute to the sense of togetherness long enjoyed by our residents.

Our partnership with the local school district continues to grow stronger each year, and we value the opportunity to include our students in Borough events. From Halloween to Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting, Memorial Day to Veterans Day. If you have never attended, or if it has been some time since you participated in a Rumson community event, we encourage you to join us in 2026.

Rumson EMS

The Rumson First Aid Squad is comprised of dozens of dedicated volunteer members, many of whom have completed the rigorous Emergency Medical Technician certification process. In 2025, the Squad responded to hundreds of calls within Rumson and provided assistance to neighboring communities as needed.

The residents of Rumson should take pride and comfort in knowing their First Aid Squad is ready, 24 hours a day, to respond to every type of medical emergency. We want to thank Captain Doug Rossbach for his service to our residents. We also wish to thank all of the volunteer officers and membership that continue to support our Volunteer First Aid Squad.

Rumson Fire Department

The Rumson Fire Department Volunteer members participate in extensive training each year to ensure they are fully prepared to respond to emergencies.

The Department responds to hundreds of fire and emergency calls within the Borough and surrounding communities annually and is staffed entirely by trained volunteer members. We extend our sincere thanks to Fire Chief Kevin McCarthy, Assistant Chief Nicholas Luiten, senior officers, and all members who continue to support our Volunteer Fire Department.

Volunteers are always needed for both EMS and the Fire Department, and Borough residents are encouraged to apply and learn how they can assist with Rumson's First Aid and Fire Protection services.

Rumson Police Department

The Rumson Police Department is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to serve the residents of the Borough of Rumson. All officers complete extensive annual training to sharpen their skills and remain current with evolving law enforcement practices.

On behalf of the Rumson Borough Council, I thank Chief Robert Boyer and all members of the Rumson Police Department for their professionalism and dedication. Throughout the year, officers continued to meet new challenges while maintaining the highest standards of service.

I would like to one again remind residents to lock vehicles and remove keys and valuables as a proactive safety measure.

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works continues to do an exceptional job maintaining the Borough's streets, parks, facilities, and infrastructure in all weather conditions. Their work is essential to keeping Rumson safe, clean, and functioning efficiently year-round.

The Borough's sanitary sewer system requires constant care, service, and maintenance. Rumson maintains approximately 75 miles of sewer pipe that conveys wastewater through multiple pumping stations before processing with the Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority.

The Borough will continue to advance its Sewer Rehabilitation Program, with Phase 4 and Phase 5 scheduled to take place in 2026. These projects are part of our long-term commitment to improving system reliability, reducing groundwater infiltration, and maintaining compliance with State regulations.

Additional improvements include sewer electric quick disconnects and new electrical service and master switch gear for the main pump station, which will enhance operational safety and emergency preparedness.

The Department of Public Works Toy Drive in early December was once again a great success. The Toy Drive brought in hundreds of gifts, which were distributed to Family and Children's Services and the Salvation Army in Red Bank, benefiting many local children in need. Thank you to everyone for your generous support, and to our Public Works employees who continue to donate their time each year for this worthy cause.

We thank Superintendent of Public Works Daryl Kochel and all DPW employees for their leadership, dedication, and continued service to our community.

Parks & Recreation

Rumson Recreation, led by new Recreation Director Shane Fallon, offers over 35 programs annually enjoyed by more than 3,500 residents of all ages. Activities include a variety of recreational youth sports and non-sports programming, summer camps, as well as featured family events and holiday parades. We continue to look for new programming and for ways to improve our recreational processes.

Rumson Rec utilizes over 300 volunteer coaches each year and provides volunteer opportunities for local teens and seniors. The Council and I would like to thank all our devoted volunteer Recreation Commission Members for their time and devotion to the benefit of our children and our community. We would also like to thank our parents and participants for their support.

In 2025, under Charlie Hoffmann's leadership, we saw an incredible transformation of our beloved Meadow Ridge Park, now equipped with brand-new, state-of-the-art fitness playground and training equipment, complemented by a new traffic pattern to further improve community safety. We sincerely thank Charlie for everything he did during his tenure as the head of our Recreation Department, and we wish him nothing but the best.

In 2026, the Borough is proud to announce significant playground improvements and updates at Victory Park, enhancing safety, accessibility, and overall enjoyment for families while maintaining the high quality of our recreational facilities.

RumsonAmerica250 Committee

As the Borough prepares to celebrate a historic national milestone, I would like to recognize the efforts of the Rumson250 Committee, whose members have worked tirelessly to plan Rumson's 250th anniversary celebration for America.

Plans included a sold-out kickoff event this past fall to launch the anniversary year, along with additional events and commemorations planned throughout 2026, which will celebrate Rumson's rich history, strong community, and shared future. We encourage all residents to take part in our special events as we mark this important occasion together. Learn more by visiting the Rumson America 250 webpage, found on The Borough of Rumson's website.

Affordable Housing

In 2025, the Borough completed its required 3rd Round Affordable Housing Cycle, satisfying all conditions of its court-mandated settlement agreement. At the same time, the Borough's Affordable Housing Committee developed the Borough's 4th Round plan, meeting all requirements and deadlines under the newly adopted State Affordable Housing legislation.

With a new 4th Round settlement agreement reached in late December, the Committee and its professionals are now focused on continued development of approved Affordable Housing Projects in the West Park and Piping Rock Park neighborhoods. In October, the Borough received confirmation of a \$3 million grant to offset the West River Neighborhood Project, reducing overall development costs by approximately 50%.

The most up-to-date information on Rumson's Affordable Housing Program is available on the Borough of Rumson website's Affordable Housing Opportunities, Affordable Housing Program, and Affordable Housing Projects webpages. Additional updates on the 4th Round plan and the new settlement agreement with Fair Share Housing Center will be shared this spring via Constant Contact and the Borough's website.

Infrastructure Improvements

The Borough will seek to continue infrastructure improvement efforts in 2026, including the potential for continued paving projects. As always, the Borough strives to leverage outside funding sources to minimize the impact on local taxpayers.

Investments in roads, utilities, parks, and facilities help preserve Rumson's character, safety, and value for future generations.

The Borough continues to invest in its municipal facilities to ensure continuity of operations and long-term sustainability. In 2026, emergency power upgrades are planned for Rumson Borough Hall, improving reliability during power outages and emergency situations.

Additionally, the ongoing HVAC and lighting upgrade project at Borough Hall is planned to enhance efficiency, comfort, and service for the community.

Construction Department

The Borough of Rumson's Construction Office is one of the best in Monmouth County. With the skilled full and part time staff, the Construction Office, led by Nick Fabiano, oversees all the building projects within our Borough as well as in Little Silver and Fair Haven through a continued, long standing multi-town shared service agreement. We thank the professionals of this great department for their work each and every day.

Engineering Department

The Borough's Engineering Office, led by Borough Engineer David Marks, designs and manages infrastructure projects such as roadway, sidewalk and curb improvements, sanitary sewer and drainage upgrades, and park projects, while also serving as the Borough's representative for numerous Monmouth County initiatives, including the recently completed Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge and the future Oceanic Bridge Replacement. Supporting these efforts, Brett Hunger serves as the Borough's Project Manager, overseeing construction projects and advancing engineering initiatives, while also fulfilling the roles of Code Enforcement Officer and Tree Conservation Officer. Having the Engineering Office as part of Borough staff has significantly reduced costs and decreased reliance on outside consulting firms.

Our DPW and Borough Engineer continue to outline key steps the Borough is taking to address groundwater infiltration, the importance of eliminating illicit connections and rehabilitating the entire Rumson sanitary sewer system. Based on these efforts the Borough contributed 200 million gallons less wastewater in 2025 compared to 2024.

We continue to prepare for both the short-term and long-term futures of our community, the Borough will undergo a Masterplan Re-Examination in 2026 and we look forward to presenting our findings and ideas to the community.

I would like to once again remind residents that sump pumps, yard drains and roof leaders are illegal connections into sanitary sewer lines.

Borough Staff & Commission Volunteer Updates

We appreciate our Borough's municipal staff, including the Borough Hall Staff, Department of Public Works, and Police Department, who continue to provide professional and courteous service to our residents within the budgetary and regulatory constraints set forth by the State of New Jersey.

I would also like to personally thank the Chairs and Members of the Borough's various Committees, Commissions, and Boards. Their volunteer service and thoughtful review of important issues are among Rumson's greatest assets. Residents interested in volunteering are always welcome and encouraged to get involved.

Once again, our Police Department, Department of Public Works, and our volunteer Fire Department and First Aid Squad are to be commended for their unconditional commitment to the safety and welfare of our residents. We appreciate your service and thank you all.

On behalf of all our Council Members and myself, I want to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year. May God Bless us all and God Bless America.

Sincerely,

Joseph K. Hemphill
Mayor

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Borough Attorney Mitchell Jacobs took the time to thank The Mayor, Borough Council and the members of The Borough staff for the opportunity to work with The Borough of Rumson.

Councilmember Kingsbery thanks Rumson Department of Public works for their work for the DPW Toy Drive where they collected more than 600 unopened gifts for the 2025 holiday season.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Lospinuso made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Councilmember Casazza. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Rogers, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk/Administrator