

SPECIAL MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF RUMSON
September 2, 2026

A special meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson was held in the Charles S. Callman Courtroom of Borough Hall on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Hemphill, Council President Conklin, Kingsbery, Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

Absent: Casazza, Smith.

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

Mitchell Jacobs, Borough Attorney, was present.

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

Mayor Hemphill declared a quorum present and announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act had been met by the 48 posting and mailing of this special meeting of the Borough Council to the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River Times*, and the posting of the meeting agenda on The Borough of Rumson website www.rumsonnj.gov.

COMMUNICATIONS:

LETTER RECEIVED FROM COUNCILMEMBER GARY CASAZZA TENDERING HIS RESIGNATION FOR THE BOROUGH COUNCIL EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026.

The Municipal Clerk/Administrator received a letter of resignation from Councilmember Gary Casazza effective September 1, 2026.

Mayor Joseph K. Hemphill read the following:

Tonight, we take a moment to recognize and thank Gary Casazza as he concludes his service on the Rumson Borough Council.

Gary's commitment to Rumson began even before his time on Council, through his service on both the Rumson School Board and Rumson Planning Board, which continued when he joined the Borough Council in 2016. Over the past decade, he has played an important role in many of the decisions and projects that have helped shape our wonderful community.

During his tenure, Gary oversaw the Finance Committee in 2017 and 2018 before becoming a key member of the Police and Emergency Services Committee, helping to support and oversee the continued strength of the Rumson Police Department and our Emergency Services.

Gary also played a pivotal role in the design efforts surrounding the Rumson-Sea Bright Bridge while serving on the bridge committee from 2021 through 2023.

In addition, Gary spent nearly a decade serving on the Borough's Building, Construction and Engineering committee, providing leadership and thoughtful oversight on projects that will continue to benefit Rumson for many years to come.

Gary's dedication, experience and commitment to public service have left a lasting mark on our Borough. On behalf of the Borough Council and the entire Rumson community, we thank him for his many years of service and for everything he has done to help make Rumson stronger for the future.

On motion by Councilmember Conklin, seconded by Councilmember Lospinuso, this communication was ordered received. All in favor.

LETTER RECEIVED FROM RUMSON REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE SERVING AS CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOROUGH COUNCIL VACANCY.

The Municipal Clerk/Administrator received a letter from the Rumson Republican Committee with a list of candidates for nomination to fill the Borough Council vacancy.

After deliberation, the Committee nominated the following:

Jamie McManus
Chuck Jones
Aidan Ehrenberg

This notification of nominations was provided for consideration and final decision.

On motion by Councilmember Conklin, seconded by Councilmember Lospinuso, this communication was ordered received. All in favor.

CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR COUNCILMEMBER

On motion by Councilmember Conklin, seconded by Councilmember Lospinuso, the Order of Business was changed at this time to make an appointment for Councilmember. All in favor.

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION:

On motion by Councilmember Conklin, seconded by Councilmember Lospinuso, the Council went into closed session at this time in order for the Borough Council to discuss the three Republican Committee nominees for the vacant Councilmember position. All in favor.

Mayor Hemphill asked the attendees to step outside of the Courtroom so that the Council could have a closed session for a few minutes to discuss the nominees.

MOTION TO CLOSE CLOSED SESSION:

On motion by Councilmember Lospinuso, seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery, the closed session was then closed. All in favor.

RETURN TO THE PUBLIC MEETING:

On motion by Councilmember Lospinuso, seconded by Councilmember Kingsbery, the Council returned to the public meeting. All in favor.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILMEMBER:

Councilmember Pomphrey moved to appoint James McManus as Councilmember of the Borough of Rumson to fill the unexpired term effective September 2, 2026, term to expire December 31, 2026. Motion seconded by Councilman Kingsbery and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Conklin, Kingsbery, Pomphrey, Lospinuso.

In the negative: None.

Absent: Smith.

MAYOR HEMPHILL ADMINISTERED OATH OF OFFICE TO JAMES MCMANUS:

Tonight, we are proud to welcome James (Jamie) McManus to the Rumson Borough Council.

Jamie grew up in Rockaway Beach, Queens, and has called Rumson home since 2006. He and his wife were married at St. James Church in Red Bank, and over the years, Jamie has become deeply involved in the community he and his family call home.

His commitment to service within The Borough is well known by us all. Since 2018, Jamie has served as Chair of the Rumson St. Patrick's Day Parade, helping lead one of our community's most cherished traditions. In addition, since 2020, Jamie has also served on the Rumson Board of Education, including the past three years leading the Board's Finance Committee.

Jamie brings with him a strong record of volunteerism, leadership and thoughtful service to Rumson. We are grateful that he has once again answered the call to serve our community, and I am pleased to welcome him tonight as the newest member of the Rumson Borough Council.

Mayor Hemphill administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Councilmember, James (Jamie) McManus.

The entire Council congratulated Councilmember McManus and welcomed him into his new role on the Council.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council President Conklin, Councilmembers Kingsbery, Pomphrey, Lospinuso and McManus.

Absent: Smith.

RETURN TO THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS:

On motion by Councilmember Conklin, seconded by Councilmember Pomphrey, the meeting returned to the Regular Order of Business. All in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Pomphrey spoke at this time. Pomphrey stated that the RumsonAmerica250 committee will be holding a lecture series on October 7, 2026 at 7:00 PM in Bingham Hall: Ghosts on the Coast: Hunted Rumson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE MAYOR:

None.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS AND CLAIMS (RESOLUTION):

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Councilmember Pomphrey spoke at this time. Pomphrey thanked Gary Casazza for everything he did during his time on Borough Council and wished him the best. Pomphrey welcomed McManus and said she looked forward to working with him. Lospinuso seconded these comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion by Councilmember Lospinuso, seconded by Councilmember Pomphrey, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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