

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

REORGANIZATION MEETING

January 1, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Councilman John Waryas, Councilman Jim Niland, Councilman Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Carolyn Fontanella, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Robert Corrado.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor John Coiro called the meeting to order and asked the Borough Clerk to call the roll.

Borough Clerk Joseph Wassel reported to the Mayor, Council and the public that at the General Election held on November 8, 2011, Philip Puglise and Debra Andriani were elected to the Council of the Borough of Totowa for a term of three (3) years.

Mayor Coiro asked Councilman Jim Niland to escort Councilman Phil Puglise and Councilman John Waryas to escort Councilwoman Debra Andriani to the dais so that the Oath of Allegiance and Office could be administered.

Mayor Coiro asked the Honorable Judge Frank M. Donato to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Office to the Councilman & Councilwoman Elect. Cheryl Puglise held the Bible for her husband Councilman Phil Puglise and Frank Andriani held the Bible for his wife Councilwoman Debra Andriani.

Badges symbolic to the Office of Council were presented to Councilman Puglise and Councilwoman Andriani by Mayor Coiro.

Mayor Coiro congratulated Councilman Puglise and Councilwoman Andriani and welcomed them to the 2012 Borough Council. The rest of the Council, the Borough Clerk and Borough Attorney also offered congratulations.

Mayor Coiro reported that Vincent Marciano has been elected as Fire Chief of the Borough of Totowa Fire Department for a term of two (2) years and asked that he come forward to the dais so that Honorable Judge Frank M. Donato could administer the Oath of Allegiance and Office. Juliann Marciano held the Bible for her husband Fire Chief Vincent Marciano.

A badge symbolic to the Office of Fire Chief was presented to Fire Chief Marciano by Mayor Coiro.

Mayor Coiro congratulated Fire Chief Marciano and said that on behalf of the Council, we continue to look forward to working with you.

Mayor Coiro welcomed the guests and citizens to the annual Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Coiro announced that the Reorganization Meeting of the 2012 Borough Council was now in session.

Mayor Coiro asked the Borough Clerk to call the roll of the 2012 Borough Council.

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Councilman Phil Puglise, Councilman John Waryas, Councilman Jim Niland, Councilman Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Carolyn Fontanella and Councilwoman Debra Andriani.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor Coiro asked Monsignor Eugene Boland to give the invocation.

Mayor Coiro asked the public to join the Mayor and Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Statement of the Meeting as required by New Jersey Statutes was read by the Borough Clerk:

This meeting of the Mayor and Council held on this First Day of January, 2012, is being held in accordance with the Annual Notice of the Schedule of Meetings as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the State of New Jersey, as amended. The agenda for this meeting has been prepared and distributed to the Mayor and Council and a copy has been on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

Mayor Coiro called for the election of Council President for the 2012 Borough Council.

Councilman Waryas nominated Councilman Phil Puglise for the position of Council President for the year 2012, seconded by Councilman Niland.

There being no further nominations, there was a motion by Councilman Waryas, seconded by Councilman Niland that Councilman Puglise be elected as Council President for the year 2012. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Puglise abstained from the voting.

Mayor Coiro announced that Councilman Phil Puglise has been elected as Council President of the Borough of Totowa for the year 2012.

Mayor Coiro announced that Councilman John Waryas will present the following resolutions to the Governing Body for their consideration and adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, that the By-Laws of the Borough Council, dated January 1, 1977 and amended January 1, 2012 are hereby adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa for the Year 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all proceedings of the Council not controlled by the provisions of these By-Laws shall be regulated by Robert's Rules of Order.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2012

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa must set forth in annual notice a schedule of its meetings for the Year 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, that this Council shall meet during the Year 2012 for its regular meetings, in the Council Chamber on the second floor in the Municipal Building, Totowa Road at Cherba Place, at 8:00 p.m., in accordance with the following schedule:

January 10 & 24	July 10 & 24
February 14 & 28	August 14 & 28
March 13 & 27	September 11 & 25
April 10 & 24	October 9 & 23
May 8 & 22	November 13 & 27
June 12 & 26	December 11 & 18
Reorganization Meeting: January 1, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this annual notice be filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk, that it be posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and be transmitted to The Herald News, The Record and The Today Paper.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2012

WHEREAS, P.L. 1983, Chapter 8, Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S. 40A:5-2, has been amended to require that each municipality designate a Cash Management Plan for the deposit of each local unit's monies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Cash Management Plan of the Borough of Totowa be and is hereby adopted.

A. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES:

1. The following financial institutions are designated official depositories:

HIGHLANDS STATE BANK
J.P. MORGAN CHASE BANK
TD BANK, NA
VALLEY NATIONAL BANK
WELLS FARGO
N.J. CASH MANAGEMENT FUND

2. Designated official depositories are required to submit to the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Totowa a copy of the State of New Jersey, Department of Banking, Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act Notification of eligibility, which must be filed semiannually in the Department of Banking as of June 30th and December 31st of each year. Said Notices must be available for annual audit.

3. Designated official depositories are required to submit to the Chief Financial Officer a copy of institution's "Annual Report" on an annual basis.

B. DEPOSIT OF FUNDS:

All funds shall be deposited within Forty-Eight (48) hours of receipt in accordance with State statute.

1. Opening funds shall be deposited into interest bearing accounts to maximize interest earnings.
2. Capital and Debt service funds may be deposited into interest bearing accounts. Non-interest bearing accounts shall be regularly monitored for the availability of funds for investment.
3. Trust funds may be deposited into interest bearing accounts in accordance with the State statutes regulating the deposit of developer's escrow deposits. Non-interest bearing accounts should be regularly monitored for availability of funds for investment except where either State or Federal laws prohibit the earning of interest on such funds.
4. Payroll and agency remittance funds shall be maintained in regular checking accounts, only insofar as they serve to compensate the bank for payroll data processing services.

C. DEFINITION OF ALLOWABLE INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS:

The Borough may permit deposits and investments in such depositories as permitted in Section 4 of P.L. 1970, Chapter 236 (C.17:9-44) and other instruments specified below:

1. United States Treasury Bills (T-Bills)
2. Borough of Totowa Bonds or Notes
3. Commercial Bank Deposits and Certificates of Deposit (CD's)
4. Repurchase Agreements (Repo's)
5. Investments in Savings and Loan Association
6. United States Government Agency and Instrumentality Obligations
7. State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
8. School District Obligations

D. DEFINITION OF ACCEPTABLE COLLATERAL AND PROTECTION OF BOROUGH ASSETS:

1. All designated depositories must conform to all applicable State statute concerning depositories of Public Funds.
2. All depositories shall obtain the highest amount possible F.D.I.C. and/or F.S.L.I.C. coverage of all Borough Assets (Demand and Certificate of Deposit).
3. Collateral will be required for all deposits and investments of the Borough, except for those in the State Cash Management Fund, collateral must have a market value of not less than 100 percent of all deposits and investments.
4. For pledges by depositories on Borough Funds, the following securities will be considered acceptable for pledges:
 - a. Any security backed by the U.S. Government.
 - b. Any direct obligation of any taxing authority within the Borough of Totowa.
 - c. Real Estate Mortgage Loans for Real Estate property located within the Totowa market area. Pledges of Real Estate Mortgage Loans shall be maintained at a market value of 115 percent of deposits.
 - d. All pledges of collateral must be indicated on an advice copy of the investment instrument which shall be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer or Treasurer.

E. COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENTS:

Where compensating balances are used to offset bank expenses, an agreement between the bank and the Borough shall be executed, specifying the charge for each service. Said agreement shall be reviewed annually.

F. REPORTING PROCEDURES:

The Chief Financial Officer shall prepare for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa the following investment reports:

1. MONTHLY REPORTING: A detailed listing of all investments purchased in the prior month, specifying the amount, interest percent per annum, number of days, period of investment and maturity date, interest amount at maturity and financial institutions with which investment is placed. This report shall be broken down by fund.

2. QUARTERLY REPORTING: A detailed summary analysis of all investments by fund, specifying the quarterly interest rate earned, quarterly interest earned on NOW and Savings Accounts and Year-To-Date total interest earnings.
3. The Treasurer shall prepare a schedule of outstanding investments for the independent auditors as of December 31st of each year and at other such times as required by the auditors.
4. The Treasurer shall also periodically provide analysis of average daily balances in interest bearing checking accounts vs. other investment vehicle potential.
5. All such reports may include a comparison of current investment income vs. forecast, prior year or market conditions.

G. DIVERSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer 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 around in various designated official depositories.

H. MAXIMUM MATURITY POLICY:

Investments shall be limited to a maturity not to exceed one year on all operating funds unless a longer maturity is permitted within the provision of regulation promulgated by either the Federal or State Governments.

I. 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 Treasurer 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 date 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.

J. RETURN ON INVESTMENT:

Where the return on a proposed investment does not exceed the cost of making said investment by a minimum amount the Chief Financial Officer and/or Treasurer will not make the investment. The Chief Financial Officer and/or Treasurer shall have the discretion to award an investment to the bank wherein the funds reside, should that bank's quoted rate be less than other quoted rates received in the event that the differential in interest rates is less than 25 basis points, and providing that the term of the investment is less than fifteen (15) days.

K. CONTROLS:

When possible, the internal controls should provide for a separation of the investment placement functions and the accounting activity. Controls must be designed 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. The Treasurer shall review each day's activity.

L. BONDING:

The following officials shall be covered by surety bonds; said surety bonds to be examined by the independent auditor to insure their proper execution:

Collector/Treasurer
Municipal Court Administrator
Deputy Municipal Court Administrator
Municipal Court Judge

Staff members of the Department of Finance not covered by separate surety bonds shall be covered by a Public Employee's Faithful Performance Bond in the minimum amount of \$50,000.00.

M. COMPLIANCE:

The Cash Management Plan of the Borough of Totowa shall be subject to the annual audit conducted pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:5-4.

- N. The official charged with the custody of the monies of the Borough of Totowa shall deposit them as designated by the Cash Management Plan and shall thereafter be relieved of any liability or loss of such monies due to the insolvency or closing of any depository designated in the Cash Management Plan pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:5-2.
- O. Where a conflict exists between this Cash Management Plan and State statute, the applicable State statute shall apply.
- P. The Cash Management Plan shall be subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Mayor, Borough Clerk and the Treasurer be hereby designated as the Official Signatories to sign all checks.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Deputy Tax Collector of the Borough of Totowa be named and designated as the Official Tax Search Officer of the Borough of Totowa.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk is hereby named and designated as the Official of the Borough of Totowa, to make Official Certificates of Searches as to Municipal Improvements authorized by Ordinances of the Borough of Totowa.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2012

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have a person responsible for processing of all documents pertaining to the Public Employees Retirement System of the State of New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk is hereby named and designated as the Supervisor Certifying Agent for documents pertaining to the Public Employees Retirement System.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2012

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have a person responsible for processing of all documents pertaining to the Police and Fireman's Retirement System of the State of New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk is hereby named and designated as the Supervisor Certifying Agent for documents pertaining to the Police and Fireman's Retirement System.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-2012

WHEREAS, it is necessary to have a person responsible for the processing of all Social Security Records.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Treasurer of the Borough of Totowa be named and designated as the Official in charge of Social Security Records.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk is hereby named and designated as the Official of the Borough of Totowa, to issue Official Certificates certifying whether or not a sub-division of lands has been recommended by the Planning Board and approved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa must establish the interest rate for the delinquent taxes for the year 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge interest on delinquent taxes and assessment accounts as follows:

First 10 days of Tax Payments	No Penalty
Thereafter from the due date of Tax Payments for the 1st \$1,500.	8%

Thereafter, the balance in

excess of \$1,500. 18%

And in addition to, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 as amended, the following schedule shall apply:

Up to \$1,500. delinquency 8%

Over \$1,500. delinquency 18%

Additional penalty for a delinquency over \$10,000. if not paid prior to the end of the calendar year. 6%

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa must establish the interest rate for the delinquent water bills for the year 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Water Registrar is hereby authorized and directed to charge interest on delinquent water accounts as follows:

First 30 days of Water Payments No Penalty

Thereafter from the due date of Water Payments for the 1st \$1,500. 8%

Thereafter, the balance in excess of \$1,500. 18%

And in addition to, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 as amended, the following schedule shall apply:

Up to \$1,500. delinquency 8%

Over \$1,500. delinquency 18%

Additional penalty for a delinquency over \$10,000. if not paid prior to the end of the calendar year. 6%

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2012

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, that appointments of officers and employees, contracts and authorizations for services which were performed during the year 2011 and previously approved, be and are hereby ratified by the Mayor and Council for the year 2012.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2012

WHEREAS, there is a need to designate the Official Signatories for Municipal Court General Account and Bail Account Checks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Municipal Court Judge, Court Administrator and the Two (2) Deputy Court Administrators be hereby designated as the Official Signatories to sign all Municipal Court General Account and Bail Account Checks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that any two (2) of the above mentioned four (4) employees will be permitted to sign the checks at any given time.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2012

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA
DESIGNATING A PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Division of Contract Compliance and Equal Employment Opportunity in Public Contracts ("Division of Contract Compliance") is charged with enforcing the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 provides that no public contract can be awarded nor any monies paid until the prospective contractor has agreed to comply with the approved Affirmative Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5, all New Jersey Public Agencies and Municipalities are required to annually designate a Public Agency Compliance Officer ("P.A.C.O.") and submit the name of the P.A.C.O. to the Division of Contract Compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that Joseph Wassel, RMC, Municipal Clerk, is hereby designated as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for the Borough of Totowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Division of

Contract Compliance.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-2012

Resolution to introduce and adopt the 2012 Temporary Budget of the Borough of Totowa.
(See attached budget)

There was a motion by Councilman Waryas, seconded by Councilman Puglise that the foregoing resolutions be adopted. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to approve Resolution No. 2012-01 for the payment of bills. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro made the following appointments with the advice and consent of the Council for the year 2012 or for the term appointed.

APPOINTMENTS

POSITION	TERM/YEARS	APPOINTED
Deputy Municipal Clerk	1	Kathryn Wasilewski
Municipal Attorney	1	Robert E. Corrado
Tax Appeal Attorney	1	
Municipal Auditor	1	Lerch, Vinci & Higgins
Municipal Engineer	1	Alaimo Engineering
Municipal Planner	1	Kauker & Kauker
Bonding Attorney	1	DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole
Temporary Chief Financial Officer	1	Lisa Nash
Treasurer	1	Lisa Nash
Tax Collector	1	
Deputy Tax Collector	1	Elaine Reddin
Water Registrar	1	Jennifer Bernardo
Deputy Water Registrar	1	Carol Potoczak
Prosecutor	1	John E. Clarke
Public Defender	1	Ramsey Merhi
Court Administrator	1	Georgeann Gosnell
1st Deputy Court Clerk	1	Maryann Coral
2nd Deputy Court Clerk	1	Katherine Schroeter

Police Dispatcher	1	Mary Picarelli
Police Dispatcher	1	Carl Baker
Police Dispatcher	1	Daniel Urban
First Aid Director	1	Robert Barbieri
Police & Fire Mechanic	1	Fred Dell'Aquila
Fire Official	1	Allen Del Vecchio
Fire Inspector	1	Richard Schopperth
Fire Inspector	1	Donald Warnet
Inspections Coordinator	1	Hubert C. Vickerilla
Construction Code Official	1	Allan Burghardt
Building Sub-Code Official	1	Allan Burghardt
Zoning Officer	1	Allan Burghardt
Building Inspector	1	
Zoning Inspector	1	
Deputy Zoning Officer	1	Harold Eifler
Plumbing Sub-Code Official	1	Michael Baker
Electrical Sub-Code Official	1	
Fire Sub-Code Official	1	Richard Schopperth
Housing Officer	1	Allan Burghardt
Housing Officer	1	Harold Eifler
Housing Officer	1	Allen Del Vecchio
Board of Assessments	1	Brian Sullivan
Board of Assessments	1	Brendan Mulligan
Board of Assessments	1	Robert Kabana
Ethics Board	5	James Camb
Ethics Board	5	Thomas Brophy
Board of Adjustment	4	Sal Mancini
Board of Adjustment	4	Joseph Patten
Board of Adjustment (Alt. 2)	2	Robert Korsakoff
Board of Health	4	Norma Fitzgerald
Animal Control Officer	1	Lysa DeLaurentis
Library Board	5	Elsa Stonebridge
Library (Mayor's Alternate)	1	John Waryas
Parking Utility Commission	5	Robert B. Coyle
School Crossing Guard	1	Danielle Matthaei
School Crossing Guard	1	Toni Ann Shpiruk
School Crossing Guard	1	Lynn Kabana
School Crossing Guard	1	Robin Romei
School Crossing Guard	1	Carlo Santaniello
School Crossing Guard	1	Susan Grotz
School Crossing Guard	1	Sharon Maley
School Crossing Guard	1	Val Cholminski
School Crossing Guard	1	Michelle DiGangi
School Crossing Guard	1	Christina Gurnari

School Crossing Guard	1	Frances Vogt
School Crossing Guard	1	George Bruno
School Crossing Guard	1	Linda Savage
School Crossing Guard	1	Karen Giannasio
School Crossing Guard	1	Jennifer DeCeglie
Physician & Surgeon	1	Albert Ades
Physician & Surgeon	1	Joseph Vitale
Physician & Surgeon	1	Charles Macaluso
Physician & Surgeon	1	John Ambrose
Physician & Surgeon	1	Francis Ferrante
Physician & Surgeon	1	Scott Coleman
Physician & Surgeon	1	Frank Lima
Chaplain	1	Fr. Patrick Ryan
Chaplain	1	Rev. Mark Walden
Chaplain	1	Fr. Marek Krysiak
Chaplain	1	Rev. Carletta Aston

For each of the aforementioned appointments, there was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to confirm the appointments. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. For Library Board (Mayor's Alternate), there was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Niland to confirm the appointments. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Waryas abstained from the voting on this appointment.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following professional resolution for the Borough Attorney. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR
PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa requires the services of an attorney to serve as the Municipal Attorney for the Borough of Totowa and represent the interests of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by the Municipal Attorney include but are not limited to attending all meetings of the Mayor and Council and Committee meetings as required; preparing Resolutions, Ordinances and contracts; reviewing documents as requested; and performing all general legal services as needed; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa did advertise for receipt of

sealed proposals for the professional legal services in accordance with its specifications entitled "Request for Proposals for the Position of Municipal Attorney for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee did examine all proposals for professional legal services; and

WHEREAS, Robert E. Corrado, Esq., Corrado & Corrado, Esqs., 142 Totowa Road, Suite 2, Totowa, New Jersey 07512, has submitted a proposal to provide the professional legal services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, Robert E. Corrado, Esq., possesses the necessary experience and expertise to provide the professional legal services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate Robert E. Corrado, Esq. in accordance with the Fee Schedule set forth in his proposal; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and terminating on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the professional legal services shall be awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Robert E. Corrado, Esq. to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Attorney and provide professional legal services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following professional resolution for the Borough Auditor. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR
PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a professional accounting firm to serve as the Municipal Auditor for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by the Municipal Auditor include but are not limited to auditing the financial statements for the Borough of Totowa; preparing the unaudited annual financial statement; review and certification of the annual budget; and preparing the annual debt statement and performing all general auditing services as needed; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa did advertise for receipt of sealed proposals for the professional auditing services in accordance with its specifications entitled "Request for Proposals for the Position of Municipal Auditor for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee did examine all proposals for professional auditing services; and

WHEREAS, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP, a New Jersey Limited Liability Partnership having its principal place of business at 17-17 Route 208, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410, has submitted a proposal to provide the required auditing services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP possesses the necessary experience and expertise to perform the professional auditing services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP in accordance with their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and terminating on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the professional auditing services shall be awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Lerch,

Vinci & Higgins, LLP to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Auditor and provide professional auditing services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following professional resolution for the Borough Engineer. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a professional engineering firm to serve as the Municipal Engineer for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by the Municipal Engineer include but are not limited to attending meetings of the Mayor and Council, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment as required; preparing plans, designs and specifications for all public works and improvement projects; reviewing all subdivision, site plan and variance applications; and performing all general engineering services as needed; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa did advertise for receipt of sealed proposals for the professional engineering services in accordance with its specifications entitled "Request for Proposals for the Position of Municipal Engineer for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Committee did examine all proposals for professional engineering services; and

WHEREAS, Alaimo Group Consulting Engineers, a New Jersey Corporation having its principal place of business at 200 High Street, Mt. Holly, New Jersey 08060, has submitted a proposal and Fee Schedule to provide the required engineering services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Alaimo Group Consulting Engineers possesses the necessary experience and expertise to perform the professional engineering services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate Alaimo Group Consulting Engineers in accordance with the Fee Schedule set forth in their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and terminating on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the professional engineering services shall be awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Alaimo Group Consulting Engineers to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Engineer and provide professional engineering services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following professional resolution for the Borough Planner. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa requires the services of a professional planner to provide general consulting services on an as-needed basis to assist the Borough of Totowa, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa did advertise for receipt of sealed proposals for the professional planning services in accordance with its specifications entitled "Request for Proposals for the Position of Municipal Planner for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Liaison and Inspection Committee did examine all proposals for professional planning services; and

WHEREAS, Kauker & Kauker, LLC, a limited liability company having its principal place of business at 356 Franklin Avenue, Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481, has submitted a proposal to provide the required planning services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Kauker & Kauker, LLC possesses the necessary experience and expertise to perform the professional planning services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate, Kauker & Kauker, LLC in accordance with their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and terminating on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the professional planning services shall be awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Kauker & Kauker, LLC to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Planner and provide professional planning services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following professional resolution for the Borough Bonding Attorney. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL BONDING SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a law firm to provide specialized legal services in connection with the authorization and issuance of bonds and bond anticipation notes in the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by Municipal Bond Counsel include but are not limited to the review of such procedures and the rendering of approving legal

opinions acceptable to the financial community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa did advertise for receipt of sealed proposals for the professional planning services in accordance with its specifications entitled "Request for Proposals for the Position of Bond Counsel for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee did examine all proposals for professional bond counsel services; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP, with offices located at 50 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08608 and 500 Frank W. Burr Boulevard, Teaneck New Jersey 07666, has submitted a proposal to provide the required legal services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP is a bond counsel firm that is recognized by the financial community and possesses the necessary experience and expertise to perform the professional legal services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP in accordance with their proposal; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and terminating on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the professional legal bond services shall be awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Bond Counsel and to provide professional legal bonding services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract For Animal Control Services For 2012. On roll

call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a qualified company to serve as Animal Control Officer for the Borough of Totowa by providing a variety of animal control services for the residents of the Borough of Totowa and for the public good; and

WHEREAS, All Humane Animal Control, 781 Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque, New Jersey 07465 has submitted a proposal to provide the animal control services for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, All Humane Animal Control and more specifically, Lysa DeLaurentis, possess the necessary experience and expertise to perform the services and to serve as Animal Control Officer for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate All Humane Animal Control at the agreed upon rate of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,250.00) per month not to exceed Fifteen Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$15,000.00) per year; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year effective January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the contract for such services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with All Humane Animal Control for animal control services at the rate of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,250.00) per month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract With Lifestar Response Of New Jersey, Inc. For

Supplemental Medical Transportation Services For 2012. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH LIFESTAR RESPONSE
OF NEW JERSEY, INC. FOR SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAL
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is an on-going need to supplement the voluntary ambulance services presently being provided to its residents and the visitors of Totowa by the Borough of Totowa Volunteer First Aid Squad; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa had previously entered into contracts with Lifestar Response of New Jersey, Inc. (hereinafter "Lifestar") wherein medical transportation services were offered to the residents; and

WHEREAS, the contract with Lifestar was performed in a professional manner and Lifestar has the necessary personnel and equipment to continue to provide the medical transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa has determined that it would enter into a contract with Lifestar wherein supplemental medical transportation services would be offered to residents and visitors of Totowa who would be liable to them for the cost of same; and

WHEREAS, the term of the contract will be effective for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa has determined that the awarding of this contract for the aforementioned services will not cause the municipality to exceed the public bidding threshold.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Lifestar for supplemental medical transportation services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract With Eagle Medical Services For Supplemental

Medical Transportation Services For 2012. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH EAGLE MEDICAL SERVICES
FOR SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is an on-going need to supplement the voluntary ambulance services presently being provided to its residents and the visitors of Totowa by the Borough of Totowa Volunteer First Aid Squad; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have previously entered into a contract with Eagle Medical Services, 20 Parish Drive, Wayne, New Jersey 07470 (hereinafter "Eagle Medical") wherein medical transportation services were offered to the residents as a supplement to the services presently provided by the Volunteer First Aid Squad and Lifestar Response of New Jersey, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa has determined that it would enter into a contract with Eagle Medical wherein supplemental medical transportation services would be offered to residents and visitors of Totowa who would be liable to them for the cost of same; and

WHEREAS, the term of the contract will be effective for a period of one (1) year commencing on January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract for the aforementioned services will not cause the municipality to exceed the public bidding threshold.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Eagle Medical for supplemental medical transportation services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas to adopt the following Resolution Approving Towing List For 2012. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2012

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA
TOWING LIST FOR 2012

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to establish a list of towing services to be used by the Borough of Totowa Police Department for the towing and storing of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a towing list shall be kept with the Borough of Totowa Police Chief; and

WHEREAS, all towing services placed on the towing list shall be available to respond to a call in accordance with a towing rotation schedule of on-call status established by the Borough of Totowa Police Chief; and

WHEREAS, when the need arises, the Borough of Totowa Police Department will call the towing service on the top of the list, which is on-call with the towing rotation schedule. The towing service called shall be placed on the bottom of the towing list and not called again until all other towing services have been called; and

WHEREAS, all towing services shall respond to a call in any part of the Borough within twenty (20) minutes of a call. If a towing service does not respond within (20) minutes of a call, the towing service next on the list shall be called and entitled to provide services as needed; and

WHEREAS, if a towing service is unavailable to perform the required services when called by the Borough of Totowa Police Department, said towing service shall be charged with a call and placed at the bottom of the list, and the next available on-call towing service shall be called; and

WHEREAS, all towing services shall be performed in a safe manner and shall be responsible for ensuring the proper and safe storage of all motor vehicles towed; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Police Chief has recommended that the following towing services be placed on the towing list for the Borough of Totowa:

Classic Towing
210 21st Avenue
Paterson, New Jersey 07501

Frank Leah Garage Inc.
6 Wilson Avenue
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

Piggy's Towing
160 Union Boulevard

Totowa, New Jersey 07512

Tony's Auto Body II
84 Union Boulevard
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

Totowa Tire Service
589 Union Boulevard
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

WHEREAS, these towing services have the appropriate vehicles, related equipment and storage facilities and maintain the required licenses and insurance to perform these necessary services for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the towing list shall be in use for a period of one (1) year effective January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2012; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby establish a towing list of the above companies to be used by the Borough of Totowa Police Department for the towing and storage of vehicles.

The following appointments were made by Mayor Coiro and do not require Council consent or confirmation:

POSITION	TERM/YEARS	APPOINTED
Planning Board Class IV	4	Richard Hennion
Planning Board Class IV (Alt. 2)	2	Hubert C. Vickerilla
Planning Board Class III	1	Louis D'Angelo
Planning Board Class II	1	Ernest Paese, Jr.
Board of Recreation	5	Michele Weir
Board of Recreation	5	Thomas Mele
Shade Tree Commission	5	Linda Schopperth
Senior Citizen Coordinator	1	Maria Murphy
Local Assistance Board	1	Debra Andriani
Local Assistance Board	4	Frank DeCeglie, Jr.
Local Assistance Board	3 (Unexp)	Arlene Festa

Mayor Coiro announced the following Council Committees for the year 2012. The first Councilman/Councilwoman listed is the Chair of that Committee.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

WARYAS D'ANGELO FONTANELLA

PUBLIC SAFETY

NILAND PUGLISE WARYAS

PUBLIC WORKS

PUGLISE NILAND ANDRIANI

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC PROPERTY

D'ANGELO FONTANELLA PUGLISE

LIAISON AND INSPECTION

ANDRIANI WARYAS D'ANGELO

LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCES

FONTANELLA ANDRIANI NILAND

Mayor Coiro asked Monsignor Eugene Boland to give the benediction.

Mayor Coiro gave his annual New Year's State of the Municipality Address and Message to the Citizens of the Borough of Totowa.

Dear Fellow Residents,

On this New Year's Day, I would like to review some of the events and accomplishments that took place in our town during the past year and to announce some of the plans we have for 2012. First of all, I welcome Council President Phil Puglise back to the Council for three more years. Phil is a member of the League of Municipalities Hall of Fame. He is a dedicated public servant who has served our town well for 23 years. I also welcome Councilwoman Debra Andriani after her first electoral victory as a Councilwoman. Throughout her tenure on the Board of Education and an employee in our library, she has demonstrated that she cares about our community and its children. She has adapted well

in the few months that she has been on the Council. I am sure that both of them will continue to serve our town well.

Councilwoman Andriani takes the place of Arlene Festa, who stepped down after serving on the Council for 12 years. We will miss her experience and wisdom on the Council and thank her for her years of service. However, as you just heard, we have decided to keep Arlene busy and she has been appointed to the Welfare Board.

In one respect, I am happy to see 2011 come to an end. The year began with massive amounts of snow through March, keeping our DPW and plows busy. This was followed by Spring floods that have become much too common for some of our residents. And then, a few months later, who could have predicted that here in North Jersey, we would experience an earthquake and a hurricane in the same week? Following Hurricane Irene, our town experienced flooding and devastation to property not seen here in decades. Many of our residents suffered for days and weeks with flooded streets and homes, ruined and moldy basements, and lack of natural gas. We had to evacuate many residents from their homes, supply food and cleaning supplies, and remove debris as quickly as possible. And to top it off, we had a snow storm in October that caused trees and branches to fall to the ground. Yet, we survived these natural disasters. Especially during the floods, we saw neighbors helping neighbors through difficult times. We saw our volunteer firefighters work tirelessly day and night for a week to aid our residents. The office of emergency management was inundated with calls from our residents. Someone was at the desk manning the calls 24 hours a day. Our DPW employees were there for the snow storms and floods, logging in many hours when needed. Our police department was out in force during the floods, guiding traffic and responding to emergencies. Our first aid squad was on alert and assisted as needed. All in all, our town came together to get through each of these crises. And that is what makes Totowa a community. No one can predict the weather, but, hopefully, 2012 will be a bit calmer.

In 2012, in order to begin alleviating the impact of flooding upon our residents, we will begin addressing our infrastructure. One project will be to install gate valves on the storm sewers at the point where they empty into the Passaic River. We will then be able to control the backflow of the river, which should prevent the river water from coming up through the catch basins and into our streets during heavy rains. The other project will be to re-line the sanitary sewer on Jefferson Place, which should prevent infiltration in our system and send less water to our pump station on William Place. This work will be done with a grant from Passaic County. We will continue looking at ways to improve our water and sewer system while alleviating flooding to our residents.

I would now like to discuss recreation. During 2011, we completed the renovation of the field at Minnisink Road. This renovation was accomplished with a grant of \$238,000 from the Passaic County Open Space Fund. New dirt and grass, a level playing field, and an underground sprinkler system are all a part of the renovations. The field should be ready for use in late summer. Improvements are also being made to the drainage at the football

field with the installation of piping underground at the PAL so that there will be less water on the field. This is also being accomplished through a grant of \$79,500 from the Passaic County Open Space Fund. Due to these grant received, these improvements will be made without cost to our community's taxpayers.

As for our roads, there is much to talk about. In 2011, we paved Killian Place and Rutherford Court as part of our annual municipal paving program. With funding from the NJ Department of Transportation, we also installed curbs and paved Hudson Avenue and completed the paving of Grant Avenue.

2011 also saw Union Boulevard paved from Totowa Road to Route 80 in our ongoing effort to beautify Union Blvd. In 2012, brick pavers will continue to be installed and this phase of our beautification program will be complete.

For our firefighters, the Borough has completed the construction of a garage at the Fire Rescue Building to house our recently purchased rescue boat, washer and dryer for our firefighters' equipment, and Scott Packs. We appreciate all of the time our firemen spend toward our community and look forward to continuing working once again with Fire Chief Vinnie Marciano and the entire fire department.

All of the accomplishments of the past year would not be possible without the support of our volunteers. Be they fire fighters, first aid squad members, PAL members, PTO members or a member of one of our municipal boards, the time and effort of all of our town's volunteers are truly appreciated by the Council and me.

On the property tax front, there is continually a fight on our hands. As you just heard me emphasize throughout the course of this address, we have obtained grants for some of the improvements to our town. Yet our property taxes continue to rise due to state mandated costs such as pension contributions, health care premiums, storm water regulations, and other costly mandates. In addition, our share of county taxes is constantly on the rise. Even in the face of these rising costs that are out of our control, we are determined to be fiscally prudent. In Totowa we have decided to make tough choices and not place a financial burden on future budgets and future generations. Our core belief is that we should pay currently to meet our obligations and not borrow. Thus, I am proud to announce that in June 2011 we made our last bond payment and now Totowa is one of a handful of towns in New Jersey that does not have any long term debt. By freeing ourselves of debt, we can utilize those funds for much needed improvements to our infrastructure and replacing outdated equipment.

And as much as the state and county continually throw at us, through the efforts of this Council, Totowa continues the distinction of having the lowest average residential property tax bill of the 16 municipalities in Passaic County as well as the lowest tax rate. Coincidentally, as reported today in the Bergen Record, the average property tax bill in Totowa is at least \$1,000 per home less than our neighboring communities. Hopefully, the

financial and economic chaos that has been occurring around us will subside. The Council and I will once again work hard to maintain the lowest tax rate for our residents.

The Council and I will remain active in our community's affairs in 2012. I am confident that we can weather the economic storm here in Totowa. On behalf of our Council members, I would like to wish everyone a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Thank you.

Mayor Coiro acknowledged and thanked Retired Monsignor Boland and Retired Judge Donato for their participation in the Reorganization Meeting. Mayor Coiro also acknowledged Passaic County Clerk Kristin Corrado who was in the audience.

Mayor Coiro invited everyone in attendance to the Barnyard & Carriage House on behalf of the Republican Club/Party to enjoy some refreshments and to congratulate Councilman Puglise and Councilwoman Andriani.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Councilman Puglise, seconded by Councilman Waryas that the meeting be adjourned to January 10, 2012. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk