

# **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

## **MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

### **REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**January 1, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Phil Puglise, Councilman John Waryas, Councilman Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Debra Andriani, 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 6, 2012, Carolyn Fontanella and Anthony Picarelli were elected to the Council of the Borough of Totowa for a term of three (3) years.

Mayor Coiro asked Councilman Phil Puglise to escort Councilwoman Carolyn Fontanella and Councilman John Waryas to escort Councilman Anthony Picarelli 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 Councilwoman Elect. Robert Festa held the Bible for his daughter Councilwoman Carolyn Fontanella.

Mayor Coiro asked the Honorable Judge Raymond A. Reddin to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Office to the Councilman Elect. Mary Picarelli held the Bible for her son Councilman Anthony Picarelli.

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

Mayor Coiro congratulated Councilwoman Fontanella and Councilman Picarelli and welcomed them to the 2013 Borough Council. The rest of the Council, the Borough Clerk and Borough Attorney also offered congratulations.

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

Mayor Coiro acknowledged Passaic County Clerk Kristin Corrado who was in the audience.

Mayor Coiro announced that the Reorganization Meeting of the 2013 Borough Council was now in session.

Mayor Coiro asked the Borough Clerk to call the roll of the 2013 Borough Council.

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Phil Puglise, Councilman John Waryas, Councilman Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Carolyn Fontanella, Councilwoman Debra Andriani and Councilman Anthony Picarelli.

**ABSENT:** None.

Mayor Coiro asked Father Patrick Ryan 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, 2013, 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 2013 Borough Council.

Councilman Waryas nominated Councilman Phil Puglise for the position of Council President for the year 2013, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo.

There being no further nominations, there was a motion by Councilman Waryas, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo that Councilman Puglise be elected as Council President for the year 2013. 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 2013.

Mayor Coiro announced that Councilman Lou D'Angelo will present the following resolutions to the Governing Body for their consideration and adoption.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 01-2013

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, 2013 are hereby adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa for the Year 2013; 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. 02-2013

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 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, that this Council shall meet during the Year 2013 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 8 & 22  
February 12 & 26

July 9 & 23  
August 13 & 27

March 12 & 26  
April 9 & 23  
May 14 & 28  
June 11 & 25

September 10 & 24  
October 8 & 22  
November 12 & 26  
December 10 & 17

Reorganization Meeting: January 1, 2014 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. 03-2013

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:

The following financial institutions are designated official depositories:

1. HIGHLANDS STATE BANK  
J.P. MORGAN CHASE BANK  
TD BANK, NA  
VALLEY NATIONAL BANK  
WELLS FARGO
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 statutes 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  
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. 04-2013

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. 05-2013

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. 06-2013

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. 07-2013

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 Officer for documents pertaining to the Public Employees Retirement System.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2013

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 Officer for documents pertaining to the Police and Fireman's Retirement System.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-2013

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. 10-2013

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. 11-2013

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa must establish the interest rate for the delinquent taxes for the year 2013.

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%
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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. 12-2013

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa must establish the interest rate for the delinquent water bills for the year 2013.

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. 13-2013

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 2012 and previously approved, be and are hereby ratified by the Mayor and Council for the Year 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2013

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. 15-2013

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. 16-2013

AUTHORIZING AND ADOPTING A STANDARD  
TORT CLAIM NOTICE FORM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa is a member of the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund ("NJIF"); and

WHEREAS, the NJIF and the Borough of Totowa have determined that it is reasonable and necessary to develop a standard form and procedure by which persons are required to notify the Borough of Totowa of claims which arise under the authority of the *N.J.S.A. 59:1-1, et seq.* ("Tort Claims Act").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa hereby adopts the Tort Claim Notice Form in the format attached hereto.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2013

Resolution to introduce and adopt the 2013 Temporary Budget of the Borough of Totowa. (See attached budget)

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Fontanella 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 D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Fontanella to approve Resolution No. 2013-01 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 2013 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	Raymond B. Reddin
Municipal Auditor	1	Lerch, Vinci & Higgins
Municipal Engineer	1	Alaimo Engineering
Municipal Planner	1	Kauker & Kauker
Bonding Attorney	1	DeCotiis, FitzPatrick&Cole
Grant Writer	1	Millennium Strategies
Temporary Chief Financial Officer	1	
Treasurer	1	Lisa Nash
Tax Collector	1	James M. Ten Hoeve

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
Deputy Court Administrator	1	Maryann Coral
Deputy Court Administrator-P/T	1	
Violations Clerk	1	Keri Giacchi
Police Dispatcher	1	Mary Picarelli
Police Dispatcher	1	Carl Baker
Police Dispatcher	1	Daniel Urban
Police Matron-P/T	1	Robin Sangastiano
First Aid Director	1	
Police & Fire Mechanic	1	Fred Dell'Aquila
Fire Official	1	Allen Del Vecchio
Fire Inspector	1	Richard Schopperth
Fire Inspector	1	Vincent Marciano
Inspections Coordinator	1	Hubert C. Vickerilla
Construction Code Official	1	Allan Burghardt
Building Sub-Code Official	1	Allan Burghardt
Zoning Officer	1	Allan Burghardt
Property Maintenance Inspector	1	James Booth
Zoning Inspector	1	James Booth
Deputy Zoning Officer	1	Harold Eifler
Plumbing Sub-Code Official	1	Michael Baker
Electrical Sub-Code Official	1	Peter Argila
Fire Sub-Code Official	1	Richard Schopperth
Housing Officer	1	Allan Burghardt
Housing Officer	1	Harold Eifler
Housing Officer	1	Allen Del Vecchio
Housing Officer	1	James Booth
Board of Assessments	1	Brian Sullivan
Board of Assessments	1	Brendan Mulligan
Board of Assessments	1	Robert Kabana
Ethics Board	5	Peter Gulino
Board of Adjustment	4	Louis Cuccinello
Board of Adjustment	4	John Krautheim, Jr.
Board of Adjustment (Alt. 1)	2	Joseph Masi
Board of Health	4	Maureen Britting
Board of Health	4	Mary Corrado
Board of Health	1 (Unexp)	Patricia Manzo
Animal Control Officer	1	Lysa DeLaurentis
Library Board	5	Thomas Watkins
Library (Mayor's Alternate)	1	John Waryas

Parking Utility Commission	5	John Soldoveri
School Crossing Guard	1	Danielle Matthaei
School Crossing Guard	1	Toni Ann Shpiruk
School Crossing Guard	1	Lori Ann Badan
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	Rose Wassel
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
School Crossing Guard	1	Donna Alvino
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	Francesco Lima
Chaplain	1	Fr. Patrick Ryan
Chaplain	1	Fr. Marek Krysiak
Chaplain	1	Rev. Mark Walden
Chaplain	1	Rev. Chuck Coblentz

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 D'Angelo 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. 18-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL  
LEGAL SERVICES FOR 2013

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 27, 2012; 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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 Tax Appeal Attorney. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR 2013 TAX APPEALS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa requires the services of an attorney to serve as Special Tax Counsel for the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by the Tax Attorney include but are not limited to defending against all tax appeals filed against the Borough of Totowa; 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 Tax Attorney for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 27, 2012; and

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

WHEREAS, Raymond Reddin, Esq., c/o the law firm of Piro, Zinna, Cifelli, Paris & Genitempo, P.C., 360 Passaic Avenue, Nutley, New Jersey 07110, 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, Raymond Reddin, 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 Raymond Reddin, 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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 Raymond Reddin, Esq., c/o the law firm of Piro, Zinna, Cifelli, Paris & Genitempo, P.C. to serve as the Borough of Totowa Tax 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. 20-2013

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR 2013

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 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 27, 2012; 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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. 21-2013

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR 2013

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 27, 2012; 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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. 22-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL  
PLANNING SERVICES FOR 2013

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 27, 2012; 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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. 23-2013

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL BONDING SERVICES FOR 2013

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 27, 2012; 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; 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 professional resolution for the Grant Writer. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL  
GRANT WRITING SERVICES FOR 2013

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire the services of a professional grant writing firm to assist the Borough of Totowa with securing federal and state appropriations, grant procurement and alternative funding methodologies; 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 Grant Writer for the Borough of Totowa"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa did receive proposals at its Municipal Building on December 27, 2012; and

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

WHEREAS, Millennium Strategies LLC, 60 Roseland Avenue, Caldwell, New Jersey 07006, has submitted a proposal to provide the grant writing and alternative financial consulting services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Millennium Strategies LLC possesses the necessary experience and expertise to perform the professional grant writing services; and

WHEREAS, for providing the required services, the Borough of Totowa will compensate, Millennium Strategies 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, 2013 and terminating on December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the professional grant writing 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 Millennium Strategies LLC to serve as the Borough of Totowa Municipal Grant Writer and provide professional grant writing 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 2013. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR  
ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2013

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, 2013 until December 31, 2013; 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 The Borough Of Totowa Towing List For 2013. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2013

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA  
TOWING LIST FOR 2013

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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, 2013 until December 31, 2013; 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	Angelo Coiro
Planning Board Class IV	4	Peter Campilango
Planning Board Class IV (Alt. 1)	2	Roy Vandebree
Planning Board Class III	1	Louis D'Angelo
Planning Board Class II	1	Ernest Paese, Jr.
Board of Recreation	5	Oliver Dittamo
Board of Recreation	5	Juliann Marciano
Shade Tree Commission	5	Bruce Fusco
Shade Tree Commission	5	Linda Paese
Senior Citizen Coordinator	1	Maria Murphy
Local Assistance Board	1	Debra Andriani
Local Assistance Board	4	Judy Wright

Mayor Coiro announced the following Council Committees for the year 2013. The first

Councilman/Councilwoman listed is the Chair of that Committee.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

D'ANGELO                      FONTANELLA                      PICARELLI

PUBLIC SAFETY

PUGLISE                      WARYAS                      FONTANELLA

PUBLIC WORKS

WARYAS                      PUGLISE                      D'ANGELO

ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY

FONTANELLA                      D'ANGELO                      ANDRIANI

LIAISON & INSPECTION

ANDRIANI                      PICARELLI                      WARYAS

LEGISLATIVE & ORDINANCES

PICARELLI                      ANDRIANI                      PUGLISE

Mayor Coiro asked Father Patrick Ryan 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 2013. First of all, I welcome Carolyn Fontanella back to the Council for three more years. Carolyn is a dedicated public servant who has served our town well as a Councilwoman for the past three years. I also welcome Councilman Anthony Picarelli after his first electoral victory as a Councilman. Having grown up in Totowa, Anthony is truly interested in serving our community. He has adapted well in the few months that he has been on the Council. I am sure that both Carolyn and Anthony will continue to serve our

town well.

Councilman Picarelli takes the place of Jim Niland, who stepped down after serving on the Council for over nine years. We will miss his experience and thoughtfulness on the Council and thank him for his years of service to our residents. I am sure that Jim will continue to stay involved in our community.

In 2012, another weather related event affected Totowa. This year, it was Superstorm Sandy. It seems that weather related issues are becoming an annual event for our town. During the days after that storm, our first responders (police, volunteer firemen, and volunteer first aid squad members) worked tirelessly to serve our residents. Our DPW employees worked overtime to clear the streets to make them passable. Our public health nurse was reaching out to residents with special needs. The office of emergency management was operational for 24 hours during that period as volunteers assisted in answering the phones. It was encouraging to see so many townspeople offering to help. And that is what makes Totowa a community. No one can predict the weather, but, hopefully, 2013 will be calmer.

We applied pressure to PSE&G to restore power as quickly as possible to our residents and assisted out of state crews that were assigned to Totowa. And although some of our residents did not have power for a week or longer, about 80% of our town had power restored after three days, which certainly was better than many other communities.

As I stated last New Year's Day, in order to begin alleviating the impact of flooding upon our residents, we would address our infrastructure. One project is 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 is to re-line the sanitary sewers on Jefferson Place and William 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. The contracts for both of these projects have been awarded and these projects should be completed in January or February. 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. In September of 2012, we reopened the field at Minnisink Road after completely renovating the field. 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. In 2012, improvements were also completed 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. I visited the field after a significant rain storm in September. I have been going to the PAL field since I was a youngster and the field was drier than I can ever recall. This work was also accomplished through a grant of \$79,500 from the Passaic County Open Space Fund.

Due to these grant received, these improvements were made without cost to our community's taxpayers. I am pleased to report that Totowa received another \$50,000 in grants from the Passaic County Open Space Fund in order to continue improving drainage to the PAL fields. That work will take place in 2013.

As for our roads, in 2012, we paved portions of Scrivens Street, Young Ave., North Winifred Drive, and Shady Lane as part of our annual municipal paving program. With funding from the NJ Department of Transportation, we will be repaving Lincoln Ave. as well as installing more catch basins on that road. 2012 also saw Riverview Drive paved from Union Boulevard to Route 80 as part of the County resurfacing program.

There will be challenges ahead with respect to infrastructure, though. Our sewer main that we share with Woodland Park and Little Falls and traverses through Paterson is in deplorable condition. It is in dire need of replacement. Although we do not yet have an exact cost to replace, our share of the estimated cost is \$1 million. We do not have a choice on this matter as we must have our sewer system operational.

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. Our share of county taxes is constantly on the rise. And we are saddled with significant tax appeals from our commercial property owners that we need to manage but puts more stress on our property tax rate. 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. 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. As reported in the Bergen Record on December 2, 2012, the average property tax bill in Totowa is \$7,150 and is over \$1,000 less per home 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 2013. 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 Father Patrick Ryan and Retired Judge Frank Donato and Judge Raymond Reddin for their participation in the Reorganization Meeting.

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 Councilwoman Fontanella and Councilman Picarelli.

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 8, 2013. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Municipal Clerk