



BOROUGH OF RED BANK

90 MONMOUTH STREET ♦ RED BANK ♦ NJ 07701

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ♦ REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 13, 2026 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice of this meeting has been published in the Borough's official newspapers and posted in the municipal building and on the Borough's website. As permitted by the Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting is being held in-person and broadcast online via Zoom video meetings. The option to attend via Zoom is a courtesy. If Zoom becomes unavailable and cannot be fixed, the Council meeting will continue in-person only. For those joining us via Zoom, please raise your hand during designated times to be recognized for a comment. Whether you are appearing in person or via Zoom, you must provide your name to be recognized.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmember Facey-Blackwood, Councilmember Forest, Councilmember Jannone, Councilmember Yuro, and Deputy Mayor Triggiano

Others present:, Gregory Cannon, Borough Attorney, James Gant, Borough Manager, and Mary Moss, Borough Clerk

Absent: Councilmember Bonatakis, Mayor Portman

PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Mayor Triggiano read the following into record:

1. **Proclamation:** Honoring the Red Bank Charter School Capital Hill Challenge Team (Riley Regina, Sofia Morales-Santamaria, David Tiro, and Jack Young)
2. **Proclamation:** Celebrating the 87th Anniversary of the New Jersey State Society of American Medical Technologists- Martha Howard, NJSSAMT President

Councilmember Jannone stated that she has been a nurse since 1976 and was unaware that medical technology had roots in Red Bank, New Jersey. She expressed her appreciation for the contributions of medical technology to the nursing profession and stated that it was an honor to recognize and meet those involved in the field.

3. **Proclamation:** Recognizing National Medical Assistants Recognition Week- Martha Howard, NJSSAMT President

Councilmember Jannone recognized medical assistants for their service, dedication, and contributions to the healthcare profession. She shared that, in addition to being a nurse, her husband is a physician and that the medical assistants in his office were integral to its operation. She expressed appreciation on behalf of nurses and physicians for the work performed by medical assistants.

4. **Proclamation:** National Black Business Month (August 2026)- Lance and Emelda Jamison

5. **Proclamation:** World Humanitarian Day (August 19, 2026)

6. **Council Appointment:** Melissa Moore was appointed as a Member of the Parks and Recreation Committee to fill the unexpired term of a vacant position. The term shall expire on December 31, 2026

PRESENTATION- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Councilmember Forest motioned to open the floor for public comment on agenda items only; Councilmember Jannone seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

1. **Phil Blackwood, Chestnut St:** commented regarding the payment of bills and the Borough's energy usage. He advised the Borough Manager that he was continuing to analyze historical energy usage and would provide an updated analysis with additional cross-checks.

Mr. Blackwood discussed residential energy costs and the potential savings associated with solar panels and electric vehicles. He stated that similar measures could reduce the Borough's energy and fuel costs and encouraged the Borough to continue efforts to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels. Mr. Blackwood stated that he objected to his tax dollars supporting the fossil fuel industry and displayed a visual aid in support of transitioning away from fossil fuels.

Councilmember Forest requested that comments during consideration of agenda items remain related to the specific items being considered and stated that he would address Mr. Blackwood's comments during his portion of the meeting. Deputy Mayor Triggiano permitted Mr. Blackwood to continue his comments.

Councilmember Jannone motioned to close the floor for public comments on agenda items only; Councilmember Forest seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 7/23/2026- Regular Meeting minutes- Councilmember Facey-Blackwood motioned to approve the minutes; Councilmember Jannone seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

ORDINANCES

1. **Final Reading/Adoption:** ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 680: "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" AT SECTION 680-35: "SCHEDULE I: NO PARKING" TO ELIMINATE DUPLICATIVE NO PARKING LOCATIONS

Councilmember Yuro offered a motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance No. 2026-23, seconded by Councilmember Facey-Blackwood. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano asked if anyone had any questions or comments, no one appearing she asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Councilmember Facey-Blackwood offered a motion, seconded by Councilmember Yuro. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Facey-Blackwood offered a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilmember Jannone. A roll call vote confirmed all in favor (5 ayes, 2 absent)

RESOLUTIONS: Councilmember motioned to approve resolutions 26-164 through 26-169 under Consent Agenda; Councilmember Yuro seconded the motion. A roll call vote confirmed all in favor (5 ayes, 2 absent)

26-164 RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

26-165 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE GRACE PERIOD ON TAXES

26-166 AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT WITH GOV MOVEMENT FOR THE AMAZON BUSINESS MARKETPLACE (Contract No. RCO-RC-EPC-2025-007)

26-167 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZE PAYMENT CERTIFICATE #4 FOR LINDEN PLACE IMPROVEMENTS – NJDOT FY24 (BLACK ROCK ENTERPRISES, LLC)

26-168 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO ARTHEON FOR A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF JOHNNY JAZZ PARK

26-169 RESOLUTION TO REFUND PARKS & RECREATION REGISTRATION FEE

DISCUSSION AND ACTION FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

Deputy Mayor Triggiano read the following into record:

Proposed Events requesting feedback from Mayor and Council:

1. Basie Center Block Party (Monmouth Street): Friday, August 21st., 10 am - 2 pm
2. Red Bank Community Block Party (Dr. Parker Blvd. between Bridge & Shrewsbury Ave.): Saturday, August 22nd ; 12 noon - 7 pm; Rain Date, Saturday, August 29th
3. Fall Red Bank Street Fair: Sunday, August 30th., 11 am – 5 pm
4. Dog Days (Marine Park): Saturday, September 19th ; 12 noon – 4 pm; Rain Date, September 20th
5. Arthur Place Block Party: Saturday, August 29th, 4 pm - 10 pm
6. Elm Place Block Party: Saturday, September 5th, 9 am - 10 pm; Rain Date, Saturday, September 12th
7. South Street Block Party: Saturday, September 26th , 4 pm – 11 pm; Rain Date, Sunday, September 27th
8. Red Bank Green 20th Anniversary Event (Marine Park): Tuesday, October 6th, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm; Rain Date, Monday, October 12, 2026

Parks and Recreation:

- New Date for Cirque De Peace (Marine Park): Saturday, August 22nd, 12 noon – 11 pm
- Hispanic Heritage Celebration (Riverside Gardens Park): Sunday, September 13th, 2 pm - 7 pm
- Halloween Movie Night (Riverside Gardens Park): Friday, October 16th, at 6 pm
- Halloween Parade (2 pm – 4:30 pm): Sunday, October 18th; Rain Date, Sunday, October 25th

PUBLIC QUESTIONS COMMENTS

Councilmember Jannone motioned to open the floor for public questions & comments; Councilmember Forest seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

1. **Phil Blackwood, Chestnut St:** referenced Council’s prior unanimous approval of a resolution supporting the “Make Polluters Pay” legislation and asked members to explain their reasons for supporting the measure.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano stated that she supports the legislation because she believes corporations were aware of their contribution to global warming and that the resulting costs have increasingly fallen on municipal governments. She cited the frequency and severity of recent storms and flooding and stated that corporations should be responsible for costs associated with the damage they cause. She noted that similar legislation has been enacted in New York State and is currently subject to litigation. She also stated that Senator Gopal and members of the Assembly are co-sponsors of the legislation and that she recently encouraged Speaker Craig Coughlin to bring the legislation to the floor for a vote. Deputy Mayor Triggiano further discussed the Borough’s environmental efforts and ongoing discussions with the Borough Manager and Council members regarding environmental initiatives.

Mr. Blackwood thanked the Deputy Mayor for the explanation and recommended the book *Merchants of Doubt* for those interested in learning more about the issue. He stated that, in future discussions, he intends to refer to the fossil fuel industry as a “bad actor.”

Deputy Mayor Triggiano thanked Mr. Blackwood and stated that she appreciates opportunities to discuss the issue.

2. **Suzanne Viscomi**, 25 Cedar Street, recognized the passing of Stella Johnson, a lifelong Red Bank resident who served as a crossing guard on the west side for nearly 14 years. Ms. Viscomi expressed her condolences to Ms. Johnson's family and appreciation for her dedicated service in helping to keep children safe while crossing the west side's roadways.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano thanked Ms. Viscomi and stated, "May her memory be a blessing."

Councilmember Forest motioned to close the floor for public questions & comments; Councilmember Jannone seconded the motion. A voice vote confirmed all in favor

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Yuro: highlighted the upcoming Red Bank Food & Wine Walk and the opening of several new local businesses, including Polara Pizza, Show, Reeves Smoothie Shop, and the relocated Old World Shave. He also noted the successful Broadwalk season and upcoming closing event featuring dueling pianos.

Councilmember Facey-Blackwood: provided updates on ranked choice voting legislation, the Borough's updated Community Energy Plan, climate-focused initiatives, and community solar. She also discussed efforts to prioritize climate considerations in Borough projects, expand the tree canopy program, and explore potential solar and battery storage opportunities at Sunset Park.

Councilmember Forest: commented on public participation, expressing support for maintaining appropriate boundaries between residents and Council during meetings, and advocated for solar panels on Borough buildings when feasible. He also discussed climate change and the "polluter pays" initiative, thanked Councilmember Blackwood for her work supporting local businesses, and emphasized the importance of listening and responding to residents. He provided updates on upcoming Parks and Recreation programs and events, including free rowing, the end-of-summer ice cream social, adult wellness classes, and summer sports camp.

Deputy Mayor Triggiano: announced that the Community Equity Engagement Committee's Community Spirit Award will be presented to Gus Carter at the September 10 meeting and reflected on the summer's many community events and challenges, noting the importance of ensuring residents feel supported and represented by their local government.

Councilmember Jannone: provided updates on public health initiatives, the Mayor's Wellness Committee, library safety, overdose awareness efforts, and the Animal Welfare Committee, including the upcoming Dog Days event on September 19 at Marine Park and continued efforts through the Borough's trap-neuter-return program, and also reported on recent community events she attended.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Borough Manager's Report:

- **Parking:** July 2026 revenues increased approximately \$41,500 over July 2025, reducing the year-to-date deficit.
- **HR:** More than 40 applications were received for open positions, with interviews underway.
- **DPU/Public Works:** The Borough is advancing RGGI-funded fleet electrification, including a potential electric street sweeper. Water/sewer capital projects and improvements at Tower Hill and Chestnut Street are being prioritized.
- **Parks & Facilities:** Marine Park improvements are complete, Eastside Park remediation is nearing completion, and the Count Basie Field bleacher project is moving forward.
- **Recreation:** An end-of-summer ice cream social for grades 4–8 is planned, with 100 backpacks donated by a local developer. Disability-inclusive recreation programs are also being rolled out.
- **Police:** Crosswalk and curb markings are being refreshed, three new speed feedback signs are planned, and pedestrian enforcement details will take place in the coming weeks.

- **Council Comments:** Councilmembers commended Borough staff for their responsiveness to residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: 7:53 p.m.

There being no further business, Councilmember Forest offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Jannone. A voice vote confirmed all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moss, RMC
Borough Clerk