

**AGENDA
COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING
315 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ 07066
JANUARY 5, 2026 - 7:30 PM**

Township Clerk, Edith L. Merkel acting as Council President Pro Tem opens the Reorganization meeting

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

INVOCATION written by Fr. Bill Sheridan of Saint Agnes Church

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the Annual Schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, The Leader, and Union County Local Source by posting such Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements, the Official Website of the Township <https://ourclark.com/> in compliance with P.L. 2025, c.72, effective March 1, 2026 and the proper filing of said Notice. Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

Reorganization meeting of the Township Council 2026 will commence

ROLL CALL:

Council Member Hoff _____	Council Member Minniti _____
Council Member Hund _____	Council Member O'Connor _____
Council Member Mazzarella _____	Council Member Smith _____
	Council Member Toal _____

First Order of Business - Election of Council President

Election of Council Vice-President

Regular Order of Business suspended

Recognizing Laurie Sheldon for receiving the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Office of Emergency Medical Services, 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer EMS and honoring her decades of exemplary service and dedication

Regular Order of Business resumes

Mayor's Appointments (Confirmation of Council Required)

Terms run concurrent with the Mayor unless otherwise stated

1. Director of Law – Albert Cruz, Esq.
2. Library Board of Trustees:

Cynthia Seng - Regular Member	5-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/30
Jessica Hoff – Mayor’s Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Carla Wagner - Superintendent’s Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

Mayor's Appointments (Without confirmation of Council)

<u>Local Emergency Management Council</u>	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Michael Nenortas	Emergency Management Coordinator	
Adam Nenortas	Deputy EM Coordinator	
Angel Albanese	Mayor/Public Information Officer	
James F. Ulrich	Business Administrator	
Patrick O'Connor	Council Liaison	
Director Patrick Grady	Police Department	
Capt. Christian Lott	Police Department	
Capt. Miguel Acabou OIC	Police Department	
Frank Cerasa	Fire Chief	
Laurie Sheldon	Emergency Medical Coordinator	
David DeRosa	Health Officer	
Scott McCabe	Supervisor Public Works	
Elizabeth Clee	Director of Communications & Business Development	
Jeff Regan	Communications Officer	
Ralph Bernardo	Director of Senior Citizens	
Megan Kociolek	Library Director	
Edward Grande	Superintendent, Clark Public Schools	
Brendan Sullivan	Director of Security, Clark Public Schools	
Richard O'Connor	Township Engineer	
Albert Cruz, Esq.	Township Attorney	
Dr. Kamran Tasharofi	Township Doctor	

Planning Board

Mayor Angel Albanese	Class I Member	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
James F. Ulrich	Class II Member	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Eric Gerstner	Class IV Member	4-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/29

Environmental Commission

Edward Dubroski	Regular Member	3-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/28
Martha Kamichoff	Regular Member	3-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/28

Union County Transportation Advisory Board

Christie Vieira	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
James F. Ulrich, Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

Union County Utilities Authority Solid Waste Advisory Board

Council Member Brian Toal	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Council Member Frank Mazzarella, Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee (Public Improvements)

Council Member Jessica Hoff	Regular Member	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Mayor Angel Albanese	Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

Traffic Advisory Board 1-year term 01/01/26 – 12/31/26

Police Director Patrick Grady
Office in Charge, Police Captain Miguel Acabou OIC
Police Captain Christian Lott
Angel Albanese, Mayor
James F. Ulrich, Business Administrator
Richard O'Connor, Engineer
Edward Grande, Superintendent Clark Public Schools

CITIZEN HEARING ON THE AGENDA:

The public comment portion of the meeting is to allow the public to bring to the Council's attention their concerns or comments. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a) and the Code of the Township of Clark, each person addressing the Council shall give their name and the town in which they reside, to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 5 minutes in duration. At the conclusion of the statements or questions from a member of the public, the Council President, at his discretion, may choose to respond or not respond.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE DIRECTOR OF LAW

Jon-Henry Barr, Esq. – Chief Municipal Prosecutor	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Robert J. Pansulla, Esq. – Alternate Prosecutor	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Jared B. Weiss, Esq. – Public Defender	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions #25-3 through #25-47 are considered routine and non-controversial items by the Township Council and will be enacted upon by one motion. There will be no separate vote on these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda to be discussed and voted on, following the approval of the remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda.

Professional Services

(Awarded through a fair and open process)

3. Auditor – Auditor – Scott Clelland, CPA, RMA of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP
4. Engineering Services – Richard O'Connor, PE, of Grotto Engineering Associates, LLC
5. Professional Planner – Paul Ricci, AICP, PP, of RicciPlanning, LLC
6. Township Attorney – Albert Cruz, Esq., of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
7. Labor Counsel – Richard P. Flaum, Esq., of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
8. Bond Counsel – Steven L. Rogut, Esq., of Rogut McCarthy LLC
9. Special Counsel – Civil Rights/Tort Claims – Richard Guss, Esq., DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
10. Special Counsel – Special Litigation/Police & Law Enforcement Matters – Richard Guss Esq., DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.
11. Special Counsel – Affordable Housing – Jeffrey Surenian Esq., of Surenian, Edwards, Buzak & Nolan LLC
12. Special Counsel – State of New Jersey Matters – Mark Dugan, Esq., of Triarsi, Betancourt, Wukovits & Dugan, LLC
13. Special Counsel – Workers' Compensation – Mark Dugan, Esq. and Marc Sposato Esq., of Triarsi, Betancourt, Wukovits & Dugan, LLC
14. Special Counsel – Tax Appeal – Martin Allen, Esq., of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer & Flaum, P.C.

15. Special Counsel – OPRA – Robert F. Varady, Esq., of La Corte, Bundy, Varady & Kinsella
16. Award of Contract to LawSoft, Inc. for Information Technology and Network Support Services for the years 2026 and 2027
17. Award of Contract for On-Call General Contractor and Facilities Maintenance Services Pursuant to a Fair and Open Process

Council’s Appointments

18. Re-appointing Christie Vieira to serve as the Certified Finance Officer for a four (4) year term, commencing January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2029
19. Appointing Nicole Castellucci as Acting Clerk and Christina DePack as Alternate Acting Clerk in the absence of the Township Clerk

20. Planning Board

Councilman James Minniti	Class III Member	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Matthew Siessel	Alternate I Member	2-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/27

21. Board of Adjustment

Thomas Meade	Regular Member	4-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/29
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22. Environmental Commission

Fernando Fraga	Alternate I Member	2-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/27
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23. Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee (Public Facilities)

Councilman Frank Mazzarella	Regular Member	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Councilman Brian Toal	Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

24. Insurance Fund Commissioners (JIF) 1-year term

James F. Ulrich	Commissioner	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26
Christie Vieira	Alternate	1-year term	01/01/26 – 12/31/26

25. Municipal Alliance Committee – 1-year term:

- Andrew Calo - Coordinator
- Detective Brian Soos - Chairperson/Police Department Youth
- Tara Oliveira – Secretary/Arthur L. Johnson Principal
- Angel Albanese - Mayor
- Detective Mark DeTore - Dare Officer
- Ralph Bernardo - Citizen Representative/Recreation
- Kelly Gencarelli - Citizen Representative
- Emily Lambert - Citizen Representative
- Richard Delmonaco - Carl H. Kumpf Principal
- Joseph Beltramba - Valley Road Principal
- Stephen Kalblein - Student Assistant Coordinator
- Jamie Wronski - Student Assistant Coordinator
- Angela DeMarzo - Teen Center Youth Representative
- Ana Minniti – PTA Representative
- Rachael Yellen - PTA Representative
- Trish Malcolm - PTA Representative
- Jackie Sulikowski - PTA Representative
- Madeline Schmidtberg - Youth Representative
- Joaquin Nikolic - Youth Representative

Finance/Tax Resolutions

26. Entering into a Cash Management Plan for the Township for 2026
27. Adopting the Temporary Current Fund, Sewer Utility, and Pool Utility Budgets
28. Establishing the rate of interest to be charged on delinquent taxes
29. Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel all delinquent tax, tax overpayments, delinquent sewer and sewer overpayments of \$10.00 or less
30. Authorizing funds of the Township and checks drawn upon the payroll and agency accounts be subject to withdrawal by any two of the following: Mayor, Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer
31. Authorizing transfers of 2025 Appropriation Reserves

Mandatory Resolutions

32. Designating The Leader, Union County Local Source, and Star Ledger as the Official Newspapers for the Township in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and P.L. 2025, c. 72
33. Designating Business Administrator James F. Ulrich as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)
34. Affirming the Township's Civil Rights Policy with Respect to all Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers
35. Governing Body certification of compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in accordance with Federal Civil Rights Law
36. Appointing James F. Ulrich as the Municipal Housing Liaison pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.2 and in accordance with Chapter 66 Section 15 of the Township Code
37. Establishing and approving professional fees or charges assessed for Municipal Land Use in connection with Township Boards' review of applications for development, preparation of documents and inspection of developments and improvements under construction
38. Authorizing the Township Engineer to review and approve all sewer applications to be submitted to RVSA and/or NJDEP without further action of the Governing Body

Purchasing Resolutions

39. Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract to Holman Fenwick Allotti (HFA) CPAs for Qualified Purchasing Agent Services through its employee, Joseph DeIorio
40. Authorizing the Qualified Purchasing Agent to award contracts having an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500 but below the bid threshold
41. Authorizing the Business Administrator, in consultation with the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA), to Advertise, Solicit, and Receive Public Bids, Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Requests for Qualifications (RFQs), and Competitive Contracting Proposals for Calendar Year 2026
42. Authorizing the Purchase of Goods and Services through New Jersey State Contracts, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law

- 43. Authorizing the Purchase of Goods and Services through approved Cooperative Purchasing Systems, and National Cooperative Purchasing Agreements, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law
- 44. Authorizing the Administration to submit grant applications for upcoming grant opportunities
- 45. Authorizing submission of a strategic plan for the Clark Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2027 in the amount of \$9,956.00
- 46. Authorizing the sale of the 2006 International Vactor truck to the Borough of Harvey Cedars for the Purchase Price of \$30,000.00

General Resolutions

- 47. Authorizing the Police Officer in Charge to issue Clothing Bin Permits for the year 2026

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

26-01 AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO FIX MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES

Public Hearing Tuesday, January 20

26-02 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND CREATING THE POSITIONS OF PERSONNEL AIDE (02645), PERSONNEL ASSISTANT (02648), AND SENIOR PERSONNEL ASSISTANT (04982)

Public Hearing Tuesday, January 20

26-03 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Public Hearing Tuesday, January 20

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES FOR 2026

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Patrick O’Connor, Chairman
 Jessica Hoff
 James Minniti

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Brian Toal, Chairman
 Patrick O’Connor
 William F. Smith

PUBLIC SAFETY

James Minniti, Chairman
 Frank Mazzarella
 Steven Hund

PARKS AND RECREATION

William F. Smith, Chairman
 Patrick O’Connor
 Jessica Hoff

PUBLIC WORKS

Frank Mazzarella, Chairman
 William F. Smith
 Steven Hund

COUNCIL LIAISON

Board of Education

Jessica Hoff

Emergency Squad

Patrick O’Connor

Recreation

William F. Smith

Fire Department

James Minniti

Police Department

Steven Hund

Public Works

Frank Mazzarella

Emergency Management

Patrick O’Connor

Public Library

Jessica Hoff

Senior Citizens

Frank Mazzarella

Environmental Commission

Brian Toal

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment portion of the meeting is to allow the public to bring to the Council's attention their concerns or comments. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10: 4-12(a) and the Code of the Township of Clark, each person addressing the Council shall give their name and the town in which they reside, to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 5 minutes in duration. At the conclusion of the statements or questions from a member of the public, the Council President, at his discretion, may choose to respond or not respond.

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP ADDRESS

COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL REMARKS

ADJOURNMENT