

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

YOUTH WEEK

May 27, 2025

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman John Capo, Councilman Patrick Fierro, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

ABSENT: None.

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

Mayor Coiro congratulated everyone on winning their respective elections and welcomed them all to the Youth Week Council Meeting.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Youth Week Elected Officials to act in the place and stead of the Duly Elected Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-2025

YOUTH WEEK RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in the observance of Youth Week, students have been designated in the place and stead of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the said students shall conduct the business of the said Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa under the guidance of the duly elected Mayor and Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, that any and all actions taken on behalf of said Governing Body are hereby and herewith ratified and confirmed as the official actions of the Mayor and Council as if the same were acting directly and in person.

Youth Week Mayor Landon Britting called the meeting to order and asked Borough Clerk Jewel Heerema to call the roll of the 2025 Youth Week Council.

PRESENT: Mayor Landon Britting, presiding, Councilman Michael O'Hare, Councilman George Dipsey, Councilman Liam Felix, Councilman Zachary Rogers, Councilwoman Valentina Cordova, Councilman Jaylen Lopez, Municipal Clerk Jewel Heerema and Municipal Attorney Jonah Santana.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor Britting asks everyone to stand for the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Borough Clerk Heerema recited the following Prayer of the Meeting: Dear Lord: the Mayor and Council pray, that courage and strength abundant be given that the actions of this Council be of benefit to all of the residents of the Borough of Totowa. Lord: we also pray, that you give courage and strength to the Youth Week Mayor, Council and Officials, so that we may fulfill our duties—under the guidance of this duly elected Mayor and Council—to the best of our abilities. And Lord: may you bless our families and friends, teachers and school officials, who have come out tonight, for all of their love and support.

Borough Clerk Heerema led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Britting asked Borough Clerk Heerema to read the statement of the meeting.

Borough Clerk Heerema reads the following statement: This meeting of the Mayor and Council held on this day is being held in accordance with Chapter 231, Public Laws 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 Britting asked if any Members of the Council, the Borough Clerk or the Borough Attorney wished to address the Council.

Borough Attorney Jonah Santana: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

Please be advised that the Borough of Totowa has been working diligently to comply with all of the updated housing mandates that are set forth in the new Affordable Housing Law. The law requires that towns must provide their fair share of affordable housing. Under the law, the Department of Community Affairs released their calculations identifying "prospective" needs — new housing yet to build — that would require the construction of almost 85,000 more units, much of it in northern New Jersey. DCA set Totowa's prospective need at 538 new housing units which is supposed to be built over the next decade.

Totowa has joined with other towns to challenge the state's new affordable housing law, arguing that the mandated number of housing units is excessive and burdensome. The towns have raised concerns about land limitations, aging infrastructure, impacts on school and the overall cost to taxpayers. These lawsuits are currently in both State and Federal courts. While the legal challenges continue, municipalities must either comply with the number allocated to their town or attempt to negotiate towards a more manageable number.

The 538 number allocated to Totowa put our town near the top of the list at Number 33 out of the 564 municipalities located throughout the State of New Jersey. The new formula used an overlay of google maps to determine where new housing could be built in our town. In Phase 1, we were able to successfully challenge our prospective number and get it reduced by showing that Totowa is only four square miles and has a significant amount of property that cannot be built on including two major highways, the Passaic River, the New Jersey State Trooper's barracks and the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

We are now in Phase 2 of the new law which requires the Planning Board to adopt a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. The Plan details how Totowa will address new housing developments through 2035. Part of the Plan will include a vacant land adjustment where we will continue to work towards lowering the overall number of housing units Totowa is required to provide. This time, the Borough will seek to eliminate those properties that have already been built upon and will also seek to exclude more vacant land properties that were misidentified such as the five cemeteries that are in our town. After the Planning Board adopts the Plan, it must be endorsed by the Governing Body. This must be completed by June 30th.

I will continue to keep you informed as these lawsuits proceed as well as keep you informed on our progress on Totowa's Housing Element.

Jonah Santana
Municipal Attorney

Mayor Britting asked if any citizens wished to be heard.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman O'Hare, seconded by Councilman Dipsey to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of May 13, 2025. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Felix abstained from the voting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Borough Clerk Heerema announced that we will now have a report from the Tax Assessor and then the Tax Collector.

Tax Assessor Mark Taveras: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

2025 began with an increase in total ratables from 2024 of approximately 1.1 million dollars. This increase was due to Added Assessments. The Assessment/Sales ratio decreased from 61.45% to 51.67%.

The 2025 Tax Appeal deadline was April 1st. The Passaic County Board of Taxation has received 1,285 appeals, of which 36 were filed by Totowa taxpayers. These appeals will be heard on May 29th. The County judgements should be issued shortly after the hearing. Twenty-seven State Tax Court appeals were filed against the Borough of Totowa. Thirteen Tax Court cases have been settled or withdrawn over the past year, leaving a pending total of 79 at the State level. The Borough Tax Counsel, appraiser and I continue to negotiate settlements or prepare for trial.

In 2024, 195 deeds were processed, which is a slight decline from the year prior. Of these 195, ninety-one involved an exchange of money. So far for 2025, 16 deed transactions have been recorded, but only 7 are considered valid for sales analysis.

As always, should you have any questions or comments, please stop by the office.

Mark Taveras
Tax Assessor

Tax Collector Jonathan Huliev: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

In Totowa, there are 3,817 line items in total. Seventy-three (73) are for vacant land and 3,426 are for residential properties. There are 230 commercial properties, 83 industrial properties, 3 apartment buildings, and 2 farms. In addition, there are 158 exempt properties, 9 railroad properties, 2 schools, 86 public properties, 8 charitable properties, 9 cemeteries and 44 miscellaneous items.

Taxes collected in the year 2025 thus far equal \$33,097,984.87 and we have collected 2024 past due taxes in the amount of \$234,732.17. The amount distributed to the County/Open Space and Added Assessment taxes are \$10,287,793.42. Totowa Schools received \$7,316,921.65 and Passaic Valley High School received \$5,482,912.05. Our collection percentage rate for 2024 was reported at 98.54%.

Regarding tax deductions given in the Borough of Totowa for 2025, they are as follows: 54 senior citizens, 7 disabled persons, 129 veterans and 28 widow of veterans.

Reporting on our tax liens, there are three outside liens and three municipal liens.

Jonathan Huliev
Tax Collector

There was a motion by Councilman Dipsey, seconded by Councilman O'Hare to approve Resolution No. 2025-12 for the payment of bills. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Dipsey, seconded by Councilman O'Hare to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue refunds to various property owners due to overpayment of 2nd Quarter 2025 taxes. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been an overpayment of 2nd quarter 2025 taxes on the property listed below; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer is entitled to a refund; and

WHEREAS, the chart sets forth the refund as follows:

Block	Lot	Property Owner	Payable To:	Overpayment
19	42	37 Charles St Sajid H Sadi	Luthfur Choudhury 37 Charles St. Totowa, NJ 07512	\$2,095.60
47	3	55 Anderson Ave Brendan Barbosa & Brenda Barbosa	Brendan Barbosa & Brenda Barbosa 55 Anderson Ave Totowa, NJ 07512	\$2,115.93
50	4	90 Hobart Pl Cesar Reyes & Johnny Serrano	Cesar Reyes & Johnny Serrano 90 Hobart PL Totowa, NJ 07512	\$2,179.64
102	4	61 Harding Ave Ihor & Tatiana Sesenko	Ihor & Tatiana Sesenko 61 Harding Ave Totowa, NJ 07512	\$2,070.38

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the overpayment shall be refunded to the taxpayer, as stated above, and the Treasurer is authorized to issue separate checks for the refunds, which shall be paid to the stated property or taxing authority.

There was a motion by Councilman Dipsey, seconded by Councilman O'Hare to adopt the following Resolution For The Purchase And Delivery Of One iPlan Table For The Building Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE iPLAN TABLE FOR THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA BUILDING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Construction Code Official has requested the purchase of one new iPlan Table to be used by the Building Department staff; and

WHEREAS, the table can also be used by the Borough of Totowa Planning Board and Borough of Totowa Board of Adjustment as needed at meetings to review plans for all applications; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is a need for this equipment to be used by the Borough of Totowa Building Department as well as the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and delivery of one new iPlan Table; and

WHEREAS, iProject Solutions, LLC, 1603 Capital Avenue, Suite 310A118, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001 has submitted a proposal dated May 2, 2025 for the purchase and delivery on one 55-inch iPlan Table Model FMV Series VS-ELT554k in the amount of \$10,140.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this equipment 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 purchase and delivery of one 55-inch iPlan Table Model FMV Series VS-ELT554k from iProject Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$10,140.00.

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

There was a motion by Councilman Dipsey, seconded by Councilman O'Hare to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Submission Of Grant Application With The State Of New Jersey For A Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) Grant. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR A LOCAL EFFICIENCY ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (LEAP) GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has allocated \$150,000 within each county in Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) funds to promote innovation among peer local units across New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) administers the LEAP grant program; and

WHEREAS, the LEAP Challenge Grant exists to challenge municipalities and counties to collaborate on more extensive partnership and collaborations to produce efficiencies through shared services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa and Township of Wayne have determined to apply for a LEAP Challenge Grant through the State of New Jersey Local Efficiency Achievement Program in the amount of \$65,000; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Wayne has agreed to be the lead agency in this program; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has made LEAP Grants available to assist local units to study, develop and implement new shared services initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project submitted in this grant application is intended to provide benefits to the participant local units' residents through the sharing of solid waste collection services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby join with the Township of Wayne in applying for a LEAP challenge grant to support undertaking this endeavor.

There was a motion by Councilman Dipsey, seconded by Councilman O'Hare to adopt the following Proclamation In Honor Of Ray Keeley Being Named Plumbing Inspector Of The Year. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF RAY KEELEY BEING NAMED
PLUMBING INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Ray Keeley has dedicated his life to the service and betterment of the Borough of Totowa and surrounding communities, exemplifying professionalism, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to public safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keeley currently serves as the Plumbing Inspector for the Borough of Totowa as well as for several neighboring municipalities, bringing with him decades of experience, technical knowledge, and dedication to ensuring public health through the enforcement of plumbing standards; and

WHEREAS, Ray Keeley is a respected leader in his field and a former President of the New Jersey State Plumbers Association, where he advanced the interests and standards of the plumbing profession throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keeley is a proud lifelong resident of Totowa, where he has lived for 56 years, raised a loving family of three children, and is now the proud grandfather of three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, prior to his role as Plumbing Inspector, Mr. Keeley served honorably as a Police Officer for the Borough of Totowa for 26 years, retiring with distinction and the gratitude of the community; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to public service continues as an active member of the Totowa Volunteer Fire Department, where he continues to serve selflessly in the protection of life and property; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his outstanding service, unwavering commitment to excellence, and his receipt of the prestigious Plumbing Inspector of the Year Award, we honor and celebrate the many contributions of Ray Keeley.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby recognize and commend Ray Keeley for his exemplary service, community spirit, and well-deserved recognition as New Jersey Plumbing Inspector of the Year.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

Borough Clerk Heerema announced that we will have a report from the Police Chief and then the Fire Chief.

Police Chief Michael Castellitto: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

Good Evening. I would like to report that in the past two weeks our Police Department has responded to approximately 1200 calls for service. These calls include numerous alarms, medical emergencies, thefts, frauds, arrests, and motor vehicle crashes to name a few.

The American Legion held their annual Memorial Day Parade on Union Boulevard this past Sunday, May 25, 2025 at 1:00 pm. The parade began on Union Boulevard at Crews Street and concluded in front of the American Legion Post. Before the start of the parade, the Police Department held their annual wreath ceremony at the Municipal Building. At the completion of the parade, the American Legion held their annual barbeque.

With the end of the school year coming up we are preparing to step up our speeding enforcement throughout the Borough since there will be more kids out and about due to the summer break. We will be deploying our speed sign trailers at various strategic locations where we typically have more speeding complaints. Due to an uptick in motor vehicle thefts, we have increased patrol to help prevent these types of crimes.

Towing applications for the upcoming year were due at the end of April. The following tow companies have submitted applications to provide towing services for the Totowa Police Department:

1. Pohlman's Towing
2. Frank Leah Towing
3. Tony's Auto Towing
4. Corrado's Towing
5. J & M Towing
6. Citywide Towing

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe summer.

Michael Castelltito
Chief of Police

Fire Chief Marcella Micciche: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

I am pleased to report that the Totowa Fire Department is currently operating at full strength, effectively serving the emergency needs of our residents and local businesses. To date, we have responded to 140 calls, which include alarm activations, vehicle fires and accidents, as well as brush fires. Recently, our department has been actively providing assistance to our mutual aid partners in Passaic and Paterson.

The Riverview Park Company 3 eagerly anticipates the arrival of their new Pierce Engine, which is awaiting construction at Pierce's manufacturing plant in Wisconsin. Delivery is expected by late December.

Recently, the department received a Chevy 2500 Series Crew Cab pickup which will be utilized for towing our rescue boat and transporting personnel as required.

The department deeply appreciates the continuous support provided by the Mayor and Council to our dedicated volunteers.

Marcella Micciche
Fire Chief

There was a motion by Councilman O'Hare, seconded by Councilman Rogers to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Borough Of Totowa Towing List For 2025/2026 License Term. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA TOWING LIST FOR 2025/2026 LICENSE TERM

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 removal, towing and storing of motor vehicles and to set rates and charges for the same; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 5-2015 adopted February 24, 2015, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa established the minimum requirements for a towing contractor to provide services including the removal, impoundment and storage of 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 fifteen (15) minutes of a call. If a towing service does not respond within fifteen (15) minutes of a call, the towing service next on the list shall be called and entitled to provide services as needed; 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:

1. Frank Leah Towing Service, Inc.
6 Wilson Avenue
Totowa, New Jersey 07512
2. Totowa Tire Service, Inc.
589 Union Boulevard
Totowa, New Jersey 07512
3. North Jersey Towing & Recovery, Inc.
84 Union Boulevard
Totowa, New Jersey 07512
4. JML, Inc.
116 Dorsa Avenue
Wayne, New Jersey 07424
5. Pohlman's Gulf LLC
160 Union Boulevard
Totowa, New Jersey 07512
6. Citywide Towing, Inc.
2 Wood Street
Paterson, New Jersey 07524

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 July 1st of each year and expire on June 30th of the following year.

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.

There was a motion by Councilman O'Hare, seconded by Councilman Rogers to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Delivery Of Ten Patrol Rifles And Accessories For The Police Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF TEN PATROL RIFLES AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Police Chief has requested that ten (10) patrol rifles be purchased for use by the Borough of Totowa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is a need for the new patrol rifles; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase of ten (10) new patrol rifles; and

WHEREAS, Sons of Liberty Gun Works, 2828 Laredo Street, San Antonio, Texas 78207 has submitted a proposal dated April 29, 2025 for the purchase and delivery of ten (10) Patrol SL-SBR-11.5 rifles and related accessories in the amount of \$13,970.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of these police rifles 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 purchase of ten (10) Patrol SL-SBR-11.5 rifles and related accessories from Sons of Liberty Gun Works in the amount of \$13,970.00.

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

There was a motion by Councilman O'Hare, seconded by Councilman Rogers to adopt the following Proclamation In Honor And Celebration Of The 100th Anniversary Of Riverview Park Fire Company #3. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

PROCLAMATION IN HONOR AND CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF RIVERVIEW PARK FIRE COMPANY #3

WHEREAS, the Riverview Protective Association was organized in the Borough of Totowa in 1924 and then incorporated on May 7, 1925 as the Riverview Park Fire Company #3 becoming the third Fire Company of the Totowa Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the original wooden Memorial School building was sold to Fire Company # 3 for \$1.00. It was dismantled and moved to their current location on Riverview Drive and Rosalie Street where it was reconstructed on land that was donated to the Fire Company by one of their Charter members, Henry and Dina Kurpershoek and

WHEREAS, for the first few years, the only equipment consisted of a hand drawn hose cart and wagon wheel rim which was used to alert members to a fire by banging on the rim. The Fire Company's first motorized apparatus was a Reo Chemical Wagon and some years later; the Company received a 1940 Ford Pumper; and

WHEREAS, Riverview Fire Company #3 was among the first to organize and sponsor a Rescue Squad whose members consisted of the Riverview firemen; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years, the members of the Riverview Park Fire Company #3 have served with valor, responding to countless emergencies, safeguarding lives and property, and serving as a pillar of strength in times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Company has also been a vital part of the community, participating in parades, educational programs, fundraisers, and civic events, demonstrating its role not only as first responders but also as community leaders; and

WHEREAS, this milestone represents a century of volunteerism, courage, sacrifice, and community spirit, reflecting the legacy of past members and the continued dedication of current and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby recognize and honor the Riverview Park Fire Company #3 on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary and express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for a century of distinguished service and steadfast dedication to the public good.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

Borough Clerk Heerema announced that we will now have a report from the Superintendent of Public Works.

Superintendent of Public Works Luis Gomez: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

This time of year, the Department of Public Works is very busy getting all the parks and fields in the Borough of Totowa cleaned up from the winter months. We are also aerating fields and parks with reseeding. The department is mulching and planting 350 flowers in planters along Union Boulevard, the PAL grounds and the Borough Hall.

We recently installed the military banners and the American flag banners throughout town.

In addition, we installed 315 new planters and 150 new trash/recycling bins that the Borough purchased through a grant.

We will soon be starting our annual fire hydrant flushing program which consists of exercising and flushing approximately 515 fire hydrants throughout the borough.

We will be installing new playground equipment and rubberized flooring at Washington Park Field paid for by the Open Space Grant.

The department recently purchased a new Bobcat Utility vehicle to water all the flowers throughout the town.

Luis Gomez
Superintendent of Public Works

There was a motion by Councilman Felix, seconded by Councilwoman Cordova to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Removal Of The Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank And Installation Of A New Waste Oil Aboveground Storage Tank At The Department Of Public Works. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 78-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF THE WASTE OIL
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW WASTE OIL
ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANK AT THE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works (“DPW”) Superintendent has advised the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank located at the DPW facility should be removed and replaced as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS, the Waste Oil Tanks are primarily used for the storage of used oil, including motor oil, transmission fluid, and used oil filters and are regulated by the New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa DPW Superintendent has recommended that the Borough of Totowa remove the existing Underground Storage Tank and replace it with a new Waste Oil Aboveground Storage Tank; and

WHEREAS, Aboveground Tanks are easier to inspect and maintain, and leaks are more visible, leading to quicker detection and remediation; and

WHEREAS, the Underground Tank removal requires a permit, and the NJDEP regulates the process; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire the services a licensed environmental professional company to perform the work required for the removal on the existing Underground Storage Tank and installation of the new Aboveground Storage Tank; and

WHEREAS, Atlantic Remedial Technologies, 1081 Paulison Avenue, Suite 203, Clifton, New Jersey 07011 has submitted a proposal dated April 7, 2025 for the removal of the Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank and installation of a new 550-Gallon Single Walled Waste Oil Aboveground Storage Tank in the amount of \$25,415.00, a copy of which is on file on the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, Atlantic Remedial Technologies is a registered company with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs and all work is conducted under the supervision of a NJDEP certified LSRP; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes shipping costs for the delivery of the new Aboveground Storage Tank as well as all related labor costs and materials needed for the installation of the Aboveground Storage Tank; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize this necessary replacement of the Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank and installation of the new Waste Oil Aboveground Storage Tank for the general health, safety and well-being of the DPW employees and residents of the Borough of Totowa; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by Atlantic Remedial Technologies for the removal the Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank and installation of the new Waste Oil Aboveground Storage at the DPW Facility in the amount of \$25,415.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize Atlantic Remedial Technologies to provide the labor and materials for the removal and installation of the Waste Oil Tanks as set forth in their proposal.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

Borough Clerk Heerema announced that we will now have a report from the Municipal Engineer.

Borough Engineer Addam Hussain: Gave the following report.

Honorable Mayor and Council:

Each year The State of New Jersey Department of Transportation provides municipal aid funding to municipalities throughout the state so they can construct transportation improvements in their home venues. The procedure begins with an application process.

In our case, the Borough of Totowa selected several roads which needed to be repaved with crosswalks being repainted and corner access ramps installed in compliance with the ADA (American Disabilities Act) so individuals in wheelchairs can ramp into the crosswalk from the sidewalk without having to mount curbs. The Borough selects the roads they want to repair and the engineer measures them to estimate the quantities needed to complete the work. Then the engineer assigns values to each of the necessary work items to develop a total cost estimate.

The application is then submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation with the cost estimate and a location map. The Department of Transportation has a complex formula to give points to the application based on criteria that best satisfy the DOT's goals of improving transportation infrastructure. The roads that carry the most traffic, for instance, receive more points than less travelled roads. Along with many other comparative criteria, each application is rated in a hierarchy that determines the share of available funding a project will receive.

The last award covered Battle Ridge Trail and Columbus Avenue for which Totowa received a grant award of \$346,843.00. As the Borough Engineer, we prepared plans and specifications so eligible contractors could provide a price based on the same work. None of the contractors can see the other's price until the designated day when everyone's bids are received and then all bids are opened at the same time. The contractor with the lowest price wins the bid. If the price is acceptable, the municipality awards the project to the low bidder and the engineer administers the project to ensure quality workmanship and fair payment.

Addam Hussain
Borough Engineer

There was a motion by Councilman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Lopez to authorize the Borough Clerk and Borough Attorney to review the requirements and the process necessary to readvertise for the receipt of bids for the sale of property identified as Block 170.02, Lot 2 and located at 200 West End Road. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilman Lopez, seconded by Councilman Felix to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Installation Of Playground Equipment For Floyd Park. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR FLOYD PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Board of Recreation has recommended the purchase of new playground equipment for Floyd Park; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to purchase the new playground equipment for the safety and welfare of the children that play in this park; and

WHEREAS, Educational Services Commission of New Jersey ("ESCNJ") Contract No. 24/25-01 has been awarded to MRC, P.O. Box 106, Spring Lake, New Jersey 07762 for the purchase of recreational equipment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this equipment 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 purchase of new playground equipment for Floyd Park from MRC in the amount of \$91,985.57.

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

There was a motion by Councilman Lopez, seconded by Councilman Felix to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Installation Of Playground Safety Surface For Floyd Park. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 80-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACE FOR FLOYD PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Board of Recreation has recommended the purchase of new playground safety surfacing for Floyd Park; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to purchase and install the new surfacing for the safety and welfare of the children that play in this park; and

WHEREAS, State of New Jersey Contract No. 16-Fleet-00131 has been awarded to Rubber Recycle, 1985 Rutgers University Boulevard, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701 for the purchase and installation of playground safety surfacing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase and installation of this safety surface material 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 purchase and installation of new playground safety surfacing for Floyd Park from Rubber Recycle in the amount of \$143,168.10.

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

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilwoman Cordova, seconded by Councilman Dipsey to introduce on first reading and advertise for public hearing the following entitled ordinance. On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-2025

A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$2,487,000 FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

There was a motion by Councilwoman Cordova, seconded by Councilman Dipsey to approve the Application For Social Affair Permit from the State Of New Jersey Division Of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the Totowa Board of Recreation to be held on June 14, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Rain Date: June 15, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.). On roll call vote, all members of the Youth Week Council present voted in the affirmative.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Councilman O'Hare, seconded by Councilman Dipsey that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk