

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

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

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

**December 26, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman Patrick Fierro, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Councilwoman Kristen Coiro, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

**ABSENT:** Council President Lou D'Angelo.

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

Municipal Clerk Wassel recited the Prayer of the Meeting followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Coiro asked the Clerk to read the statement of the meeting.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the following statement: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act Chapter 231, Public Laws 1975 of the State of New Jersey, as amended, Public Notice is hereby given that there will be a special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa to be held on Friday, December 26, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Complex, 537 Totowa Road at Cherba Place, Totowa, New Jersey 07512. The purpose of the meeting will be to appoint and swear in an Acting Chief of Police of the Borough of Totowa Police Department. Official action will be taken. A copy of this special meeting notice is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk; it is posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and the Borough's website; and is transmitted to The Herald News, The Record and The Passaic Valley Today Paper.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, there was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Fierro to appoint Captain Brian Mulroony as Acting Chief of Police of the Borough of Totowa Police Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Bucher abstained from the voting.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Fierro to adopt the following Resolution Appointing Captain Brian Mulroony As Acting Chief Of Police Of The Borough Of Totowa Police Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Bucher abstained from the voting.

RESOLUTION NO. 162-2025

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAPTAIN BRIAN MULROONY AS ACTING  
CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2025, Borough of Totowa Police Chief Carmen Veneziano was suspended indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Code of the Borough of Totowa, Chapter 75 entitled "Police Department", Article VII, "Duties of Office", Sub-Section 11, "Chief of Police", in the absence of disability of the Chief of Police, the duties of and responsibilities of the Chief of Police shall be performed by the next ranking superior Officer of the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa recognize the need for continuity in police leadership; and

WHEREAS, Captain Keith Schaffer had indicated to the Public Safety Committee that he was not interested in serving as the Acting Chief; and

WHEREAS, Captain Brian Mulroony has many years of police experience including almost 27 years with the Borough of Totowa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Committee after reviewing the personnel file of Captain Brian Mulroony unanimously recommended to the Council that Captain Brian Mulroony be appointed to the position of Acting Chief of Police of the Borough of Totowa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118 and the Code of the Borough of Totowa Chapter 75 entitled "Police Department", the Acting Chief of the Borough of Totowa Police Department shall have all powers and responsibilities of the permanent Chief; and

WHEREAS, Captain Brian Mulroony shall serve as Acting Chief of the Borough of Totowa Police Department until such time as further action is taken by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby appoint Captain Brian Mulroony to the position of Acting Chief of the Borough of Totowa Police Department.

#### MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT

I, Mayor John Coiro, with the advice and consent of the Council do hereby appoint Captain Brian Mulroony as Acting Chief of Police of the Borough of Totowa Police Department.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Fierro to confirm the appointment. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Bucher abstained from the voting.

Mayor Coiro went to the front of the dais and explained why we are here today. Mayor Coiro gave some history and background on Captain Brian Mulroony.

Mayor John Coiro asked Captain Brian Mulroony to approach the dais to take the Oath of Allegiance and Office as Acting Chief of Police.

Mayor John Coiro administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Acting Police Chief Brian Mulroony, with his wife Sarah holding the Bible and his children Jane and Walter by his side.

Acting Police Chief Brian Mulroony thanked the Mayor and Council for having faith in him and his abilities to run the Department during this difficult time. He went on to say that we have a great Department that basically runs itself and wanted to ensure the people of Totowa that there will be no drop off in the service that we provide to our residents.

Congratulations were extended to Acting Police Chief Brian Mulroony by the Borough Council, the Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and all in attendance.

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

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Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Municipal Clerk