BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REORGANIZATION AGENDA
January 6, 2026

Time: _____
Please stand for a Moment of Silence
Salute to the Flag

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Leader and advertised on November 13, 2025. Notification was sent to the Local Source Union County, and is posted on the Municipal website, the Municipal public bulletin board, and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk informing the public of the time and place according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 241, P.L. 1975). P.L. 2025, c.72 states that legal ads placed by the municipality will not need to be published in newspapers beginning on March 1, 2026 and will be posted on our municipal website at this link: Garwood Legal Notices

This meeting is called pursuant to the State Statutes for the purpose of organizing the Governing Body for the year 2026, to make appointments and to transact any business pertinent thereto.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blumenstock	_____		
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

Mayor Blumenstock announces:
The first order of business is to administer the Oath of Office to:

Councilwoman Elect Clarissa Nolde – for a three-year term
Councilwoman Elect Kathleen Annarelli – for a three-year term

Mayor Blumenstock requests that Councilwoman Elect Clarissa Nolde be escorted to the rostrum. The Oath of Office is administered. (Councilwoman Nolde takes her seat on the dais).

Mayor Blumenstock requests that Councilwoman Elect Kathleen Annarelli be escorted to the rostrum. The Oath of Office is administered. (Councilwoman Annarelli takes her seat on the dais).

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Annarelli	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

Mayor Blumenstock announces that anyone in the audience wishing to make a presentation may do so now.

Mayor Blumenstock asks the Borough Council to nominate and elect a Council President.

A motion is made by _____ for _____, second by _____, to elect a Council President. Any other nominations? _____

Roll call for _____ as Council President.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Annarelli	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

CONSENT AGENDA PARTS A, B, C
(Adoption upon Roll Call)

"Consent agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in the full minutes."

CONSENT AGENDA PART A

26-01 Awarding professional services for Municipal Attorney to Adam S. Abramson-Schneider, Esq. of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri. Jacobs, LLC.
26-02 Awarding professional services for Municipal Labor Attorney to Adam S. Abramson-Schneider, Esq. of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri. Jacobs, LLC.
26-03 Awarding professional services for Municipal Tax Appeal Attorney to Robert F. Renaud, Esq. of Renaud Colicchio LLC.
26-04 Awarding professional services for Municipal Engineering to Michael Disko of M. Disko Associates Consulting Engineering.
26-05 Awarding professional services for Municipal Accounting Services to Warren Korecky of Suplee Clooney & Company.
26-06 Awarding professional services for Affordable Housing Administrative Agent to Randall Gottesman of COP&H.
26-07 Awarding professional services for Bond Attorney to Steve Rogut, Esq. of Rogut McCarthy Troy, LLC.
26-08 Awarding professional services for Redevelopment Attorney to Brian M. Chewcaskie of Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri. Jacobs, LLC.
26-09 Awarding professional services for Municipal Prosecutor to Russell J. Huegel, Esq.
26-10 Awarding professional services for Municipal Court Public Defender to Richard W. Hawkins, Esq. of Friend & Wenzel, LLC

Mayor Blumenstock requests a motion and a second to adopt Consent Agenda Part A.
A motion was made by _____ second by _____, to adopt Consent Agenda Part A.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Annarelli	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

CONSENT AGENDA PART B

26-11 Adopting the 2026 Temporary Budget
26-12 Resolution to affirm the Borough of Garwood'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
26-13 Approving Council meeting dates for 2026
26-14 Designating official newspapers through February 28, 2026
26-15 Authorizing Depository for all funds
26-16 Depository for Developers Escrow Account for 2026
26-17 Designating Depositories for Municipal Court Funds
26-18 Depository for Savings & Investment Accounts for 2026
26-19 Authorizing mileage reimbursement
26-20 Authorizing delinquent tax penalty rate for 2026
26-21 Authorizing Interest charges on delinquent taxes and assessments
26-22 Setting fee for duplicate tax certificates
26-23 Authorizing cancellation of tax delinquencies less than $10.00
26-24 Authorizing the Tax Collector to conduct a tax sale
26-25 Authorizing Primepoint LLC as third-party payroll provider
26-26 Authorizing Execution of Contract with Phoenix Advisors LLC
26-27 Appointing Risk Management Consultant - Acrisure, LLC
26-28 Authorizing the Governing Body to Sign the Certificate of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "*Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*"
26-29 Adopting the Rules of Order for 2026
26-30 Garwood Fire Department Appointments
26-31 Appointing Planning Board Liaison – Councilwoman Bianco
26-32 Appointing Emergency Management Director – K. Capobianco
26-33 Appointing Assessment Search Officer – P. Vazquez
26-34 Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer – P. Vazquez
26-35 Appointing Tax Search Officer – S. Bruns
26-36 Appointing Fund Commissioner - Statewide Ins. – J. Arthur
26-37 Appointing Clean Communities Coordinator – K. Lysak
26-38 Appointing DPW Foreman – L. Navarro
26-39 Appointing a Shade Tree Officer – W. Nierstedt
26-40 Authorizing contracts with the Approved State Contract Vendors during 2026 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12A
26-41 Designating Date and Rate for Bulk pick up

Mayor Blumenstock requests a motion and a second to adopt Consent Agenda Part B.
A motion was made by _____ second by _____, to adopt Consent Agenda Part B.

ROLL CALL*:*

Councilwoman Annarelli	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

Mayor Blumenstock requests a motion, followed by a second, to suspend the regular order of business for the purpose of presentation by Robert Renaud regarding Affordable Housing.

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to suspend the regular order of business.

All in favor_____, opposed_____

Special Presentation: Affordable Housing Settlement Agreement

A motion was made by _____, second by _____ to resume regular session.

All in favor_____, opposed_____

CONSENT AGENDA PART C

26-42 Resolution authorizing settlement agreement regarding Affordable Housing between the Borough of Garwood and Garwood Paperboard Urban Renewal Associates, LLC

Mayor Blumenstock requests a motion and a second to adopt Consent Agenda Part C.
A motion was made by _____ second by _____, to adopt Consent Agenda Part C.

ROLL CALL*:*

Councilwoman Annarelli	_____	Councilman Kearney	_____
Councilwoman Bianco	_____	Councilwoman Nolde	_____
Councilwoman Boto	_____	Councilman Padusniak	_____

THE FOLLOWING ARE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS – CONFIRMATION IS NOT REQUIRED

PLANNING BOARD:

NAME	CLASS/TERM	APPOINTMENT DATES
Jen Blumenstock	Class I – 1 YEAR	01/01/2026-12/31/2026
Katya Lysak	Class II – 1 YEAR	01/01/2026-12/31/2026
Steve Greet	Class IV – 4 YEARS	01/01/2024-12/31/2027
William Nierstedt	Class IV – 4 YEARS	01/01/2026-12/31/2029
Kathleen Villaggio	Class IV – 4 YEARS	01/01/2025-12/31/2028
Steve Barcan	Class IV – 4 YEARS	11/09/2023-12/31/2026
Craig McCarrick	Class IV – 4 YEARS	01/01/2023-12/31/2026 (filling unexpired term)
Mary Ann Hay	Class IV – 4 YEARS	11/01/2025-12/31/2026 (filling unexpired term)
David Beyers	Alt. I – 2 YEARS	01/01/2025-12/31/2026
Keith Mason	Alt. II – 2 YEARS	01/01/2026-12/31/2027
Brian Di Maria	Alt. III – 2 YEARS	01/01/2026-12/31/2026
Thomas James Bianco	Alt. IV – 2 YEARS	01/01/2026-12/31/2027

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES FIVE YEAR TERM 01/01/2025 – 12/31/2030

Debra Broski	01/01/2024-12/31/2028
Maria Pereira Colish	01/01/2026-12/31/2030
Maria Nierstedt	01/01/2024-12/31/2028
Jessica Rivera-Siew	01/01/2025-13/31/2029
Allison Gernett	01/01/2023-12/31/2027 (filling unexpired term)
Carol Hart	01/01/2023-12/31/2027 (filling unexpired term)
James Hart	01/01/2022-12/31/2026

GARWOOD BOARD OF HEALTH THREE YEAR TERM 01/01/2025 – 12/31/2028

Lisa Villaggio	11/01/2025-12/31/2027 (filling unexpired term)
Sarah Fiasconaro	01/01/2024-12/31/2026
Barbara Greet	01/01/2026-12/31/2028
Karin Kilmartin	01/01/2024-12/31/2026
Debra Broski	01/01/2025-12/31/2027
Jane Tenore	01/01/2025-12/31/2027

SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD

NAME	TERM	APPOINTMENT DATES
Jeff Jotz	3 YEARS	01/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
Mark Koch	3 YEARS	01/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
William Nierstedt, Shade Tree Officer	3 YEARS	01/01/2024 – 12/31/2026
Michael Mindel	2 YEARS	01/01/2026 – 12/31/2027
Len Navarro	1 YEAR	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026
Doug Stoffer	1 YEAR	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026

GREEN TEAM THREE YEAR TERM 01/01/2024 – 12/31/2026

Andrea Castro	William Nierstedt	Leslie Breen	Carol Lombardo	Noah Gibson
Charles Lombardo	Claus Holzapfel	Dorinda Dec	Edison Lee	
Elaina Ficarra	Elizabeth Tague	Gabrielle Blevins	Hadas Parag	
Janine Koch	Jeff Jotz	Jen Blumenstock	Jolene Love-Chakraborty	
Julie Graham	Karina Boto	KC Bree	Kim Ficarra	
Mallery Mangan	Maria Nierstedt	Mark Koch	Michael Mindel	
Rich Faustino	Russ Graham	Shari Cohen	Gabrielle Blevins	

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

Carol Lombardo	Kim Ficarra
Pat DiFabio	

RECREATION COMMITTEE ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

Patricia Henkel	Jenny Goodell	Tracey Thompkins
Amanda DiMaria	Karina Boto	Brian Tague
Clarissa Nolde	Krystal Zawoysky	

GARWOOD PARTNERSHIP FOR ARTS AND CULTURE ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026

Gabrielle Blevins	James Hart
Karina Boto	Marc Lazarow
Nisrine Boto	Amanda Berry
Christine Guerriero	Chase Padusniak
Tony Gruenewald	Krissia Keck

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

Mollie Helck, Coordinator	Mary Emmons	Patricia Vazquez
Jen Blumenstock	Christopher Czachorowski	

CITIZENS' ADVISORY PANEL ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

Howard Ruderman	Brian DiMaria	Joe Gola
Tracey Thompkins	Mark Gernett	Tracey McCarrick
Pat DiFabio	Craig Gibson	Ken Capobianco

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ONE YEAR TERM 01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026

Lee Frankel	Jim Marano	Erick Weiss
EJ Gaub	Justin Nicholls	
Mark Gernett	Vince Spera	
Shari Littman	Stefanie Savino	

FIRE AND OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Director	Ken Capobianco (**3 Year Term: 01/01/2025-12/31/2028**)
Police Chief	Jonathan Pridy
Deputy Coordinator	Philip Lewis, Police Captain
Fire Chief	John Scalzadonna
Superintendent DPW	Clint Dicksen
First Aid President	Glen Costello
Engineer	Michael Disko
Ex-Officio	Jennifer Blumenstock, Mayor
	John Arthur, Borough Administrator

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVENUE SHARING COMMITTE

Jen Blumenstock (Public Services)	Jeff Jotz (Public Improvements)	Alternate: John Arthur

UNION COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: CLINT DICKSEN

UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD LIAISON: WILLIAM NIERSTEDT

2026 STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE	
Finance and Personnel	Councilwoman Boto, Chair
	Councilman Padusniak
	Councilwoman Annarelli
COMMITTEE	
Fire and OEM	Councilman Padusniak, Chair
	Councilwoman Bianco
	Councilman Kearney
COMMITTEE	
Community Development	Councilwoman Bianco, Chair
	Councilwoman Nolde
	Councilman Kearney
COMMITTEE	
Public Works	Councilman Kearney, Chair
	Councilwoman Annarelli
	Councilwoman Bianco

COMMITTEE	
Police & Public Safety	Councilwoman Nolde, Chair
	Councilman Padusniak
	Councilwoman Boto
COMMITTEE	
Community Engagement	Councilwoman Annarelli, Chair
	Councilwoman Nolde
	Councilwoman Boto

OTHER or SPECIAL Committees of the Mayor	
Senior Citizen Liaison	Mayor Blumenstock
Board of Health Liaison	Councilman Kearney
Library, Mayor's Representative	Councilwoman Nolde
School Board Liaison	Councilwoman Boto
Citizen's Advisory Panel Liaison	Councilwoman Boto
Green Team Liaison	Mayor Blumenstock
Small Business Advisory Board Liaison	Councilwoman Bianco
Shade Tree Liaison	Councilwoman Annarelli
Business and Industry/Chamber of Commerce	Carol Kearney

NEW BUSINESS:

Proclamation for Councilman Kearney

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT:

Council Members wishing to address the governing body and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Mayor and Council please step to the microphone, and state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to five minutes.

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to close public comment.
All in favor, opposed?

MAYORS ADDRESS

ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on **Thursday, January 22, 2026** at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Information for meetings is posted on the Borough website: https://garwood.org/gb_notices

A motion was made by _____ second by _____ to adjourn.

Time:_____