

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD

AGENDA

Organization Meeting January 1, 2026 1 p.m.

1. Meeting called to Order by the Township Clerk.
2. Posting of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance – Led by **Carl Ostergaard, Commander David Penna, Vice Commander and Members Rich Castro and Marty Mand of American Legion Post #228**, followed by **Springfield American Legionnaire Ernie DellaSala** playing *God Bless America*.
3. Township Clerk announces that the Meeting is being held in accordance with the Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231, and proper notification has been given in The Local Source, The Star Ledger and posted on the bulletin board in Town Hall and on the Township's Website.
4. Invocation by **Father David Santos, Pastor, St. James R.C. Church, Springfield**
5. **Union County Board of Elections Chair, Clara Harelik**, presents Certificates of Election to Township Committee Members Elect **Richard Huber and Harris Laufer**.
6. **Township Clerk Linda Donnelly** administers the Oath of Office to Township Committee Member Elect **Richard Huber**.
7. **Senator Raj Mukherji** administers the Oath of Office to Township Committee Member Elect **Harris Laufer**.
8. Township Clerk calls for nominations for the position of Chair of the Township Committee for the year 2026:
 - a. **Christopher Capodice** seconded by **Alexander Keiser** nominates **Harris Laufer**
 - A) Voice Vote
9. **Senate President Nicholas Scutari** administers the Oath of Office to **Mayor Elect Harris Laufer**
10. The Mayor calls for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Township Committee for the year 2026:
 - a. **Christopher Capodice** seconded by **Chris Weber** nominates **Alexander Keiser**
 - A) Voice Vote
11. Remarks by: **Committeeman Richard Huber** and **Mayor Harris Laufer**
12. The Mayor announces the Members of the Working Committees for the year 2026:
 - a. **Department of Revenue and Finance**, Includes Township Real Estate, Insurance, Budget Control, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Pension Fund, Purchasing and Assessment of Taxes
 1. **Alexander Keiser**, Chair
 2. **Harris Laufer**

- b. **Department of Public Safety**, Includes Police Department, Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management, Local Assistance Board, Building Department and Construction Code Official
 - 1. **Harris Laufer**, Chair
 - 2. **Chris Weber**
- c. **Department of Administration**, Includes Office of the Township Clerk, Licenses, Personnel, Sanitation as pertains to Collection of Refuse, Township Attorney and Administrator
 - 1. **Christopher Capodice**, Chair
 - 2. **Alexander Keiser**
- d. **Department of Public Affairs**, Includes Parks and Public Property, Animal Welfare, and Recreation
 - 1. **Chris Weber**, Chair
 - 2. **Richard Huber**
- e. **Department of Public Works**, Includes Engineering Department and Road Department
 - 1. **Richard Huber**, Chair
 - 2. **Christopher Capodice**

13. Township Attorney for the year 2026:

- a. **Resolution 2026-01** – This resolution appoints the Township Attorney and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Kraig Dowd, Esq.**, of the firm **Weber Dowd Law, LLC**, for Legal Services for the period ending December 31, 2026 at a fee set by contract.
 - 1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Capodice
 - b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser
 - Roll Call Vote

14. Bond Counsel for the year 2026:

- a. **Resolution 2026-02** – This resolution appoints Bond Counsel and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Steven Rogut, Esq.**, of the firm **Rogut McCarthy, LLC**, for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.
 - 1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser
 - b. Second: Committeeman Capodice
 - Roll Call Vote

15. Labor Counsel for the year 2026:

- a. **Resolution 2026-03** – This resolution appoints Labor Counsel and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **R. Scott Eveland, Esq.**, of the firm **Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs, LLC**, for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.
 - 1 Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Capodice
 - b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser
 - Roll Call Vote

16. Conflict Counsel for the year 2026:

- a. **Resolution 2026-04** – This resolution appoints Conflict Counsel (Personnel)

and

authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with the firm **Antonelli Kantor PC**, for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Capodice
 - b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser
- Roll Call Vote

17. Township Auditor for the year 2026:

a. Resolution 2026-05 – This resolution appoints an Auditor and authorizes award of

Professional Service Contract with **Warren M. Korecky**, of the firm **Suplee, Clooney & Company**, for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser
 - b. Second: Committeeman Capodice
- Roll Call Vote

18. Consulting Township Engineer for the year 2026:

a. Resolution 2026-06 – This resolution appoints Consulting Township Engineer and

authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **CME Associates** for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Huber
 - b. Second: Committeeman Capodice
- Roll Call Vote

b. Resolution 2026-07 – This resolution appoints Consulting Township Engineer and

authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.**

(GPI) for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Huber
 - b. Second: Committeeman Capodice
- Roll Call Vote

c. Resolution 2026-08 – This resolution appoints Consulting Township Engineer and

and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Colliers Engineering**

& Design for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Huber
 - b. Second: Committeeman Capodice
- Roll Call Vote

19. Township Planner for the year 2026:

a. Resolution 2026-09 - This resolution appoints Township Planner and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Victor Vinegra of Harbor Consultants** for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Capodice
 - b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser
- Roll Call Vote

20. Special Counsel – Tax Appeals (Appeal Defense) – for the year 2026:

a. Resolution 2026-10 – This resolution appoints Special Counsel for Tax Appeals

(Appeal Defense) and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Robert Renaud, Esq.**, of the firm **Renaud Colicchio LLC**, for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by contract.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser

b. Second: Committeeman Capodice

Roll Call Vote

21. Special Counsel – Tax Appeals (“Reverse” Appeals) – for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-11** – This resolution appoints Special Counsel for Tax Appeals (“Reverse” Appeals) and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Charles Blau, Esq.**, of the firm **Blau & Blau, Esqs.**, for the year ending December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser

b. Second: Committeeman Capodice

Roll Call

22. Redevelopment Counsel Services for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-12** – This resolution appoints Redevelopment Counsel Services and authorizes award of Professional Service Contract with **Trenk Isabel Siddiqi & Shahdanian P.C.** for the year ending December 31, 2026, at a fee set by Contract.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Committeeman Huber

b. Second: Committeeman Capodice

Roll Call Vote

23. Licensed Real Estate Appraisal Services for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-13** – This resolution appoints an award of Professional Service Contract for Licensed Real Estate Appraisal Services with **Otteau Group** for the period ending December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser

b. Second: Committeeman Capodice

Roll Call Vote

24. Prosecutor of the Municipal Court for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-14** – This resolution appoints **Howard Egenberg, Esq.**, as Prosecutor of the Municipal Court for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Committeeman Weber

b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser

Roll Call Vote

25. Alternate Prosecutor of the Municipal Court for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-15**– This resolution appoints **Michael Wittenberg, Esq.**, as Alternate Prosecutor of the Municipal Court for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Committeeman Weber

b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser

Roll Call Vote

26. Public Defender of the Municipal Court for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-16**–This resolution appoints **Steven Goldstein, Esq.**, as a

Public Defender of the Municipal Court for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Committeeman Weber

b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser

Roll Call Vote

27. Alternate Public Defender of the Municipal Court for the year 2026:

a. **Resolution 2026-17** – This resolution appoints **Jared Weiss, Esq.**, Alternate Public Defender of the Municipal Court for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Committeeman Weber

b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser

Roll Call Vote

28. Planning Board:

a. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Scott Wishna** as a Class IV Member of the Planning Board for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

b. The Mayor announces the reappointment of **Richard Cederquest** as a Class II Member of the Planning Board for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

c. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Kenneth Korn** as an Alternate I Member of the Planning Board to fill a term expiring on December 31, 2026.

d. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Kevin Fuaro** as an Alternate II Member of the Planning Board for a two year term, expiring on December 31, 2027,

e. The Mayor announces that **Alexander Keiser** will serve as the Township Committee Representative (Class III) of the Planning Board for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

f. The Mayor announces that he will serve as the Mayor's Representative of the Planning Board for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

29. Board of Adjustment:

a. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Committeeman Huber** nominate **Mark Cunningham and Steven Hockstein** as Members of the Board of Adjustment for four year terms, expiring December 31, 2029.

a. **Voice Vote**

b. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, nominate **Randy Pearlman** as an Alternate II Member of the Board of adjustment a two year term, expiring December 31, 2027.

a. **Voice Vote**

30. Board of Health:

a. Motion: **Committeeman Weber**, seconded by **Committeeman Huber**, nominate **Marissa Horowitz** as a Member of the Board of Health, for a three year term, expiring December 31, 2028.

a. **Voice Vote**

b. Motion: **Committeeman Weber**, seconded by **Committeeman Huber**, nominate **Jodi Bergen** as a Member of the Board of Health, for a three

year term, expiring December 31, 2028.

- c. The Mayor announces that he will serve as the Liaison to the Board of Health for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

31. Library Board of Trustees:

- a. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Scott Horowitz** as a member of the Library Board of Trustees of the Springfield Free Public Library, for five year terms, expiring December 31, 2030. Motion: **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, seconded by **Committeeman Weber**, approve this appointment.

a. Voice Vote

- b. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Marissa Ruggerio** to the Library Board of Trustees to fill a term expiring December 31, 2027. Motion: **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, seconded by **Committeeman Weber**, approve this appointment.

a. Voice Vote

- c. The Mayor announces that he will serve as the Mayor's Representative to the Springfield Free Public Library, for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

32. Environmental Commission:

- a. The Mayor announces the appointments of **Mary Feldman** and **Hortense Diaz** to the Environmental Commission for three year terms, expiring December 31, 2028.
- b. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Marissa Horowitz** to an Alternate II Member to the Environmental Commission for a two year term, expiring December 31, 2027.
- c. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Scott Wishna** as Planning Board Representative to the Environmental Commission to fill a term, expiring December 31, 2026.
- d. The Mayor announces the designation of **Alyson Miller** as the Chair and Presiding Officer for the Environmental Commission for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.
- e. The Mayor announces that **Chris Weber** will serve as the Liaison to the Environmental Commission for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

33. Tax Map Official:

- a. Motion: **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, seconded by **Committeeman Huber** nominate **Michael McGurl, PLS**, as Tax Map Official for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

a. Voice Vote

34. Rent Leveling Board:

- a. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, reappoints **Susan Blanco** as a Member of the Rent Leveling Board for a three year term, expiring December 31, 2028.

a. Voice Vote

- b. **Resolution 2026-18** – This resolution appoints **Agata DelMauro** as Secretary to the Rent Leveling Board, for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

1. Adoption

- a. Motion: **Committeeman Weber**
- b. Second: **Deputy Mayor Keiser**

Roll Call Vote

c. **Resolution 2026 -19** -This resolution appoints **Jarrid Kantor, Esq., of the firm Antonelli Kantor, PC**, as attorney to the Rent Leveling Board, for a one year term expiring, December 31, 2026.

- 1. Adoption
 - a. Motion: Committeeman Weber
 - b. Second: Deputy Mayor Keiser
- Roll Call Vote

35. **Municipal Alliance Committee:**

a. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, nominate the following people for appointment to the Municipal Alliance Committee, for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Board of Education | TBD |
| 2. Superintendent of Schools | Rachel Goldberg |
| 3. High School Principal | Dr. Norman Francis |
| 4. Police Department | Chief John Cook |
| 5. Recreation Department | Director Adam Lieb |
| 6. Board of Health | Marconi Gapas |
| 7. Chamber of Commerce | Michael Scalera |
| 8. Administrator | John Bussiculo |
| 9. Mayor’s Representative | Jay Spinelli |
| 10. Public Representative | Sergeant Matthew Schmidt |
- a. **Voice Vote**

36. **Safety Officer:**

a. Motion: **Committeeman Weber**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, nominates **Scott Seidel** as Safety Officer for the year 2026.

a. **Voice Vote**

37. **Emergency Management Council**

a. The Mayor announces the appointment of the following to the Local Emergency Management Council for the year ending December 31, 2026:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Coordinator | Scott Seidel |
| 2. Deputy Coordinators | Apu Mullick, Frank Applegate & Salvatore Cocuzza |
| 3. Police Department | John Cook |
| 4. Fire Department | Michael Mastroeni |
| 5. Hazmat Officer | Marc Corea |
| 6. 1 st Aid Squad | Apu Mullick |
| 7. Township Engineer | Michael Disko |
| 8. Health Officer | Marconi Gapas |
| 9. Mayor | Harris Laufer |
| 10. Administrator | John Bussiculo |
| 11. Township Clerk | Linda Donnelly |
| 12. School Superintendent | Rachel Goldberg |
| 13. Business & Industry | Michael Scalera & Alternate John Sommers |
| 14. Media | Jay Spinelli |
| 15. Logistics | Jennifer Law |

38. **Union County Committee on Revenue Sharing:**

a. The Mayor announces the appointments of **Harris Laufer and John Bussiculo** to the Union County Committee on Revenue Sharing for a one year term, expiring

December 31, 2026.

39. Union County Transportation Advisory Board

- a. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Robert Boettcher and Michael Rella** to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

40. Union County Solid Waste Advisory Commission

- a. The Mayor announces the appointment of **Alexander Keiser** to the Union County Solid Waste Advisory Commission for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

41. Business Improvement District:

- a. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser** nominate **Harris Laufer** as Township Committee Member and Liaison to serve on The Special Improvement District, district management corporation's Board of Directors for a one year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

a. Voice Vote

- b. Motion: **Committeeman Capodice**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Keiser**, nominate **Johanie Jean-Louis** to serve on The Special Improvement District, district management corporation's Board of Directors for a three year term, expiring December 31, 2028.

a. Roll Call Vote

- c. The Mayor announces the appointments of **Ken Gruskin** and **Dave Wavra** to serve on The Special Improvement District, district management corporation's Board of Directors for three year terms, expiring December 31, 2028.

42. Mayors Council for Rahway River Watershed Flood Council:

- a. The Mayor announces that **Alexander Keiser** will serve as the Township Committee Liaison to the Mayors Council for Rahway River Watershed Council for a one year Term, expiring December 31, 2026.

43. CONSENT ORGANIZATION RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Resolution 2026-20** – establishes petty cash funds
- b. **Resolution 2026-21**– authorizes CFO to pay certain claims
- c. **Resolution 2026-22**– establishes cash management plan for 2026
- d. **Resolution 2026-23** – authorizes the adoption of Current Fund and Pool Utility Fund Temporary Budget appropriations prior to the Adoption of the CY 2026 budget
- e. **Resolution 2026-24** – authorizes cancellation of tax overpayments or delinquent amounts less than \$10.00
- f. **Resolution 2026-25** – authorizes the Tax Collector to hold an Electronic Tax Sale for unpaid taxes, municipal liens or charges pursuant to provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:5-19.1, as amended
- g. **Resolution 2026-26** – authorizes Township Committee to fix the rate of interest and penalty to be charged for non-payment of taxes or assessments when same become delinquent.
- h. **Resolution 2026-27** – authorizes Tax Collector to hold a tax sale for unpaid taxes, municipal liens or charges pursuant to provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:5-29, et seq., as amended
- i. **Resolution 2026-28** - provides that certain over-time provisions are applicable to law enforcement personnel, as per the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act
- j. **Resolution 2026-29** – provides that certain over-time provisions are applicable to

- fire-fighting personnel as per Federal Fair Labor Standards Act
- k. Resolution 2026-30** – appoints Recreation Council for 2026
 - l. Resolution 2026-31** – awards a professional service contract to Phoenix Advisors LLC as financial advisor to the Township
 - m. Resolution 2026-32** – appoints Crossing Guards for 2026
 - n. Resolution 2026-33** – appointing OEM Coordinator
 - o. Resolution 2026-34** – appoints Deputy OEM Coordinators and Admin. Asst. to OEM
 - p. Resolution 2026-35** – appoints Auxiliary Police Officers
 - q. Resolution 2026-36** – appoints general insurance consultants (RD Parisi)
 - r. Resolution 2026-37** – appoints health insurance broker (Acrisure)
 - s. Resolution 2026-38** – appoints vision, life broker (Nistar)
 - t. Resolution 2026-39** – appointing RMC & RMC Agreement
 - u. Resolution 2026-40** – appointing Fund Commissioner
 - v. Resolution 2026-41** – awards professional service contract to M. Disko Associates for Township engineering services
 - w. Resolution 2026-42** – appointing Diane Sherry, Chief Financial Officer, as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for the Township
 - x. Resolution 2026-43** -participation in Mayors Council for Rahway River
 - y. Resolution 2026-44** – designating official newspapers
 - z. Resolution 2026-45** – meeting schedule
 - aa. Resolution 2026-46** – dental insurance coverage for active employees and retirees
 - bb. Resolution 2026-47** – shared services agreement with Bergen Tech - IT

1. Adoption

a. Motion: Deputy Mayor Keiser

b. Second: Committeeman Capodice

Roll Call Vote

- 44. Township Clerk administers Oath of Office to all appointees present.
- 45. Public Comment (Any Governmental Issue).
- 46. Benediction by **Rabbi Mendy Avtzon, Chabad of Springfield**
- 47. Motion to adjourn: **Deputy Mayor Keiser** seconded by **Committeeman Weber**.
- 48. Mayor declares the Organizational Meeting of the Springfield Township Committee for 2026 is now closed.