COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2026, 4:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL

The Reorganization Meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mayor Tara Torchia Buss followed by a salute to the flag led by Captain Kent Smith and Executive Officer James McCarty of Naval Weapons Station Earle. The following statement was read by Municipal Clerk, Kathleen Capristo: "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by noticing the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times on October 30, 2025, stating that the Reorganization Meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee would be held on January 2, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., Colts Neck Town Hall, 1 Veterans Way, Colts Neck, NJ 07722. A copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk."

Roll Call by Municipal Clerk Capristo indicated the following:

Present:	Mayor Tara Torchia Buss, Deputy Mayor Michael Viola, Committeeman Frank Rizzuto, and Committeeman Dan Buzzetta
Also Present:	Kathleen Capristo, Township Administrator/Municipal Clerk and Meghan Bennett, Township Counsel
Absent:	Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick

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1. **Welcome by Mayor Tara Torchia Buss**

   Mayor Buss welcomed everyone to the reorganization meeting and expressed her gratitude on behalf of Colts Neck Township to Captain Kent Smith and Executive Officer James McCarty from Naval Weapons Station Earle for their service.

2. **Invocation: Reverend Scott Brown**

   And let us pray. Oh, Holy Gracious God, we begin both a New Year and this reorganization meeting with gratitude, giving thanks for the freedom we share, the freedom to gather, the freedom to speak, to serve, to participate in the life of this community. Grateful for a system of government that entrusts ordinary citizens with these extraordinary responsibilities and for the democratic process that brings us together on this day. We express our deep appreciation for the dedicated township staff and the many, many volunteers whose quiet faithful work sustains the daily life of Colts Neck. We offer a special gratitude for our neighbors at Naval Weapons Station Earle. For our emergency service personnel, police, fire, first aid, fire police, all who stand ready to respond in moments of crisis. We pray for our troops. Their courage and their commitment are a profound gift to this community. We pause in gratitude for Mayor Buss's leadership. And we pause to recognize Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick for her exemplary service. Thank you for the leadership she offered, the integrity she showed, the care she demonstrated for the well-being of this town. And now as we install new leadership, thank you for those who have stepped up to serve. We ask for wisdom, clarity, steadiness for each member of the Township Committee and especially for incoming Mayor Viola and Deputy Mayor Buzzetta. May they lead with humility and strength, with respect for differing perspectives, with a shared commitment to the common good. May all who serve this township do so with fairness, with humility, with compassion, with a deep sense of responsibility to the people they represent. And so may you, oh God, shed Your grace upon us each and all. For I pray this in our Savior's name. Amen.

3. **Remarks: Mayor Tara Torchia Buss**

   As we begin 2026 and I conclude my term here as Mayor, I want to first express my sincere gratitude to my colleagues on the Township Committee, to our dedicated Township staff, and to the residents of Colts Neck who have entrusted me with the

privilege of serving in this role. Serving as Mayor has been one of the greatest honors of my public life. It is a responsibility that I have truly carried with humility, respect, and a deep appreciation for the trust placed in me. At this time, I want to recognize some of our esteemed dignitaries in the room tonight. Welcome to our own County Sheriff Shaun Golden. Thank you so much for being here. Commissioner Director Tom Arnone, and our County Clerk Christine Hanlon. We are really grateful for your service to this County and all that you do to make this one of the best counties in the entire state. So, thank you. I believe Judge Sonnen Blick is here who I had the wonderful, wonderful honor of having you swear me in to my mayoral role. So, thank you very much for being here. Thank you again to Captain Smith and Executive Officer McCarty for being here and for all you do. And as I said, not just serving our country, but serving the people of Colts Neck in a way that's been very, very special to all of us. So, thank you for standing by all of us and all the service that you provide to our great town and our great country. I also want to say a big thank you to two of our former mayors who are with us this afternoon, Mayor Bartolomeo and Mayor Orgo. Once a Mayor, always a Mayor. That's what they tell me. I know that you know all too well what it takes to sit up here and serve this town. So I thank you for being here and showing support to all of us, not just up here, but everybody in the room as residents of this town. Tonight is a moment for reflection on the work that we have done together and on the values that guide this community. In 2025, Colts Neck continued to exemplify what thoughtful, steady, and responsible local government looks like. We approached each decision with care, balancing fiscal responsibility with the need to maintain services and infrastructure that make this Township a great place to live. In 2025, a significant amount of the Township's and Committee's effort were focused on affordable housing. I know a lot of you have been here for some of our affordable housing meetings. A big part of our focus was devoted addressing the Township's affordable housing obligations. This work was very complex, time consuming, and very difficult. But it was undertaken thoughtfully, responsibly, and with the clear understanding of the long-term impact it has on all of us. Whether or not we're sitting up here or not, the impacts are far lasting because I know each one of us lives here and loves living here, and that's why we've chosen to serve. Much of this work happened outside of the public view, but it was countless hours reviewing, discussing, deliberating, and it really does reflect the seriousness with which we take that responsibility. Equally important was our continued commitment to open communication and civic engagement. One of the most important things that I was able to accomplish here in 2025 along with my fellow committee members was live streaming our meetings. I heard from the public. The public wanted that and I think it's very important. It gives people the opportunity to engage with government in a way that best suits them. Whether or not it's people who complain to me that they couldn't get here, they didn't want to drive in the dark, they were sick, they were taking care of their kids, they were taking care of their loved ones. Now they can watch, sit back, and learn about everything that we're doing here for transparency and openness. None of this work would be possible without all our Township employees. Their professionalism, institutional knowledge, and dedication form the backbone of our community. Their service is steady, often behind the scenes, and always essential, always essential. As I step down as Mayor, I do so with confidence. Confidence in my colleagues currently on the Township Committee. Confidence in the Township's new Committeemen who will be sworn in shortly, in all of our staff, and the strength of our community as a whole. Colts Neck is guided by shared values of respect, service, and a deep, deep appreciation for our history and our responsibility to one another. As we look ahead to 2026 and as our nation approaches its 250th anniversary, we're reminded of the work of local government. It's not just about any one individual or title, but about stewardship, leaving our community stronger for those who come next. It has been a tremendous privilege to serve as your Mayor. I'm grateful for the opportunity, for the collaboration, and for the trust that you have placed in me. I look forward to continuing to serve this Township in the year ahead and supporting its continued progress and success. So, thank you again. Happy New Year and may 2026 be a year of health, unity, and promise for Colts Neck Township.
Thank you

4. **Swearing in of Elected Committeeman John W. Tobia**

Mr. Tobia invited County Clerk Christine Hanlon to read the certification of election.

Committeeman Tobia was sworn in by Monmouth County Sheriff Shawn Golden and Monmouth County Commission Tom Arnone.

Mr. Tobia made the following remarks:

First of all, I'd like to welcome dignitaries, elected officials, commander from Earle that have worked within the County and shared services. Our religious leaders, Father Jeff, Pastor Chris, Reverend Scott, and Rabbi Ephi, volunteers, our police officers, friends, and family. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for coming out or viewing this swearing in and Reorganization Meeting. This is not about any individual committee person or myself for that matter. It is about what is best for Colts Neck and its residents, and I take that truly to heart. There are a number of thank yous that we must say, but first and foremost, I would like to thank my family for supporting the decision to run, they had to get a little used to that, and enduring the negativities and the misinformation on social media during the campaign. So, to Jessica and my children, a big thank you does not go far enough because of what they had to endure, nobody should have had to endure. But I'm sure another horse might help. And for those of you that didn't get to the auction last night, we didn't quite luck out, but I'm sure there'll be another one in the future. I further want to thank the voters and the residents of Colts Neck for your overwhelming support and friendship. Thank you to our farming community who came out strong for me and I take that support very dearly as you know from my agricultural background going back to my Grandfather. Thank you to the former police and members of the Township Committee. Thank you to Sheriff Golden for your support, Director Arnone and the other Commissioners for their undying support over the years and in this next endeavor because if it was not for the shared services that the Commissioners have supported for the municipalities, it would be very hard a town like Colts Neck, they could not do without that assistance. And for that, I thank you. This road to the Township Committee all started back in a Planning Board Meeting almost a year ago when I served as a Chairman of the of that meeting and it was to discuss affordable housing. Residents were upset and looking for openness and transparency which they were entitled to and they still are. I believe Colts Neck needs responsible housing to accommodate seniors, veterans, and citizens with special needs that does not have a negative impact on the environment and risking our water supply. Responsible housing is not high density. It should include walking paths, green areas, recreation areas to benefit our future residents that will be residing there. We have to change. We have to do what can put Colts Neck first. Township spending needs to be reduced by at least 10% in operations, not on the backs of our dedicated employees and legal expenses need to be reduced and wasteful litigation to be eliminated. We also have to develop a 10-year capital plan and we have to change. We have to put Colts Neck first. Our residents are our friends, our neighbors. We play on children's sports teams, classmates, and as such, they should be treated with respect, not be abused, verbally abused for disagreements with us and or airing a question that they might not have in the right format. We have to change. We have to put Colts Neck first. The Township Committee should post all information on a Township website and Township sponsored social media, not from individual committee members because we have to speak for the entire Township, not individuals. We have to change. We have to put Colts Neck first. I would like to commend our employees for their professionalism and dedication to the residents of Colts Neck. Looking forward to listening and assisting to getting your jobs done, not by interfering, but by true support. To our many volunteers and first responders, a big thank you for your time and dedication. I look forward to working with you also and to strengthen those partnerships. Preserve our farmland and open space by furthering our partnerships with the County, Naval Weapons Station Earle, the state and private organization is a must to protect Colts Neck. Open and transparent exchange of information and to be inclusive of all groups and individuals. Develop capital and spending plan for infrastructure, parks, and other improvement with true input from our residents. Develop a strategic plan. Support the CNBA and businesses with a shop local program. and seeking input from our residents is a must. Thank you again to the supporters and now supporters alike. I look forward to serving you. Let's get Colts Neck back on track together. We have to put Colts Neck first and I thank everyone of you for all your assistance in getting here. It has been a long tough road and I do truly look forward to working with the other members of the Township Committee.

5. **Open Nominations for 2026 Mayor**

Mayor Buss called for nominations for the 2026 Mayor. Committeeman Buzzetta nominated Michael Viola, his nomination was seconded by Mayor Buss, and a roll call vote as follows:

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Torchia Buss	S	X			
Deputy Mayor Viola		X			
Buzzetta	M	X			
Rizzuto		X			
Tobia			X		
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

Mr. Tobia stated that as a result of an incident that occurred last year that has been ongoing where there is future litigation that could have been settled differently and the outcome could have been a censure of both parties or a formal reprimand to both parties I will vote no.

6. **Swearing in of Mayor Viola**

Mayor Viola was sworn in by Township Attorney Meghan Bennett.

7. **Presentation of Gavels**

Mayor Viola was presented a 2026 Mayor's gavel by former Mayor Buss.
Mayor Violas then presented the 2024 Mayor's gavel to form Mayor Buss.

8. **Remarks by Mayor Viola**

Mayor Viola made the following remarks:

Friends and neighbors, Happy New Year. We gather today at a moment of great challenge. In the bitter cold winter of 1776, Thomas Paine, to rally the frozen, malnourished and undersupplied Continental Army from "summertime patriots" to full time freedom fighters and to overcome adversity and rededicate themselves to the fight for our Independence, he made the following profound statement. "These are the times that test men's souls." Metaphorically, we are in similar times and the trials we face are formidable and threaten to divide us. But let us remember the core of our community: our shared values, our collective strength, and our fundamental commitment to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We are stronger together than we are apart. Let us bridge our differences, support our neighbors, and face the future not with fear and anger, but with unified resolve. Together, we can and will overcome any adversity, forging a brighter, stronger tomorrow for Colts Neck. May God bless our community, our servicemen and women, our first responders and may he continue to shed his grace on Colts Neck, thank you.

9. **Open Nominations for 2026 Deputy Mayor**

Mayor Viola called for nominations for the 2026 Deputy Mayor. Mayor Viola nominated Committeeman Buzzetta, his nomination was seconded by Committeewoman Mayor Buss, and a roll call vote as follows:

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola	M	X			
Buzzetta		X			
Rizzuto		X			
Buss	S	X			
Tobia			X		
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

10. **Swearing in of Deputy Mayor Buzzetta**

Deputy Mayor Buzzetta was sworn in by Mayor Viola.

11. **Remarks by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta:**

Deputy Mayor Buzzetta made the following remarks:

Good evening everyone. Mayor Viola, members of the Colts Neck Township Committee, Monmouth County Commissioners, Sheriff Golden, Madam Clerk, Captain Smith, township professionals, first responders, volunteers, family, friends, and fellow residents of Colts Neck—thank you for joining us this evening. I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Deputy Mayor of this extraordinary community. Colts Neck is more than just a place on a map; it is a Township built on dedication, civic pride, and neighbors who genuinely care about one another. Colts Neck has always stood for strong values: respect for our history, thoughtful growth, and a shared responsibility to protect the quality of life that makes this Township special. Colts Neck thrives because of the people who step up every day—our police, first responders, our Township staff, our educators, and our resident-volunteers who sit on boards and commissions, and our residents who look out for each other and for our community. Your service does not go unnoticed, and I thank you for all that you do to keep Colts Neck safe, beautiful, and welcoming. As Deputy Mayor, I am committed to listening to your thoughtful comments and suggestions, working collaboratively, and approaching every decision with the best interests of our residents in mind. When I ran for a seat on the Township Committee, I said that neither I nor the other Committee members have answers to all the issues we face. I ask you, members of our community, to collaborate with us, communicate with us, and cooperate with us because we are stronger when we stand united. Looking ahead, we face both opportunities and challenges. Whether it is maintaining fiscal responsibility, preserving open space, supporting our residents, or ensuring transparent and responsive local government, I promise to approach these issues with fairness, integrity, and an open mind. There are two issues in particular that I wish to specifically highlight: Municipal property taxes and high-density housing. I pledge that I will do everything in my power to keep our municipal tax rate as low as possible without sacrificing services, while understanding that state mandates increase Township expenses every year. Secondly, I pledge to fight every day to prevent high-density overdevelopment, especially in areas that are not suitable for such housing. I want the residents of Colts Neck to know that I am always available for thoughtful discussion about issues that matter to you. The highlight of this past year for me were the evenings spent in this room during township committee meetings with standing room only crowds when we came together to discuss issues, share ideas, and find solutions. My wish for the new year is that we continue to work together, respectfully, and constructively with the focus on facts and honesty so we can continue to move Colts Neck forward while honoring the traditions that make it unique. I'd like to thank my family and friends for their unwavering support. Public service is never a solo effort and I am grateful for their encouragement that allows me to serve with confidence and humility. Thank you again for this opportunity. I am humbled by the faith you have placed in me and I am honored to serve you, the residents of Colts Neck. It is a privilege to serve you as Deputy Mayor and something I will never take for granted. I look forward to working with each of you in the year ahead for the good of our community. Thank you. Happy New Year as we celebrate our country's 250th birthday and may God continue to bless Colts Neck.

12. **Public Comment**

Mayor Viola called for a motion to open public comment. On motion by Committeewoman Buss, seconded by Committeeman Rizzuto and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was opened.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, spoke of Mr. Viola's refusal to comment on affordable housing at the 2025 Reorganization Meeting, a recreation grant that lacked transparency, Earle base housing being considered for affordable housing units, other towns building dedicated affordable housing units, bid price for a Five Points park restroom project, the Township Administrator's roll as both Administrator and Clerk, a special needs park needing to be closer to restrooms, Luca Brasi getting into his face, and his support for Mr. Tobia.

Mayor Viola responded advising that the Township has initiated a search for a full-time Clerk and that the housing as NWS Earle option was nixed by Balfour Beatty which is why it was discussed in great length publicly.

Allan Ryan, resident, advised that he is a volunteer fireman and expressed his appreciated for his fellow volunteers and all they and their families sacrifice. Mr. Ryan also thanked the members of Naval Weapons Station Earle for all they do.

As there were no further comments or questions from the public, Mayor Viola called for a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Committeeman Rizzuto, seconded by Committeewoman Buss and a unanimous roll call vote, public comment was closed.

13. **Announcement – Township Committee Liaison Assignments for 2026**

Mayor Viola read the following:

MAYOR VIOLA

Litigation Steering Committee
Naval Weapons Station Earle
Colts Neck Business Association
County/State/Federal Government
Planning Board Class I
Recreation Committee
Senior Citizens Club

DEPUTY MAYOR BUZZETTA

Affordable Housing
Local/Regional Schools
Personnel Committee
Naval Weapons Station Earle
Finance
Planning Board Class III
County/State/Federal Government

COMMITTEEMAN RIZZUTO

Emergency Management
First Aid
Historic Preservation Committee
Long Range Planning Committee
Police Department

COMMITTEEWOMAN TORCHIA BUSS

Fire Department
Prevention Alliance
Friends of the Library
Long Range Planning
Personnel Committee

Affordable Housing

COMMITTEEMAN TOBIA

Sports Foundation
Board of Health
Environmental/Shade Tree Commission
Farmland and Open Space Committee
Green Team Advisory Committee
The Grande

14. **Mayor's Appointments to Volunteer Boards, Committees, and Commissions**

Mayor Viola read the following appointments for 2026:

Planning Board

MICHAEL VIOLA – CLASS I	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
BRIAN CASWELL – CLASS II	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
DAN BUZZETTA – CLASS III	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
GEORGE CORSI – CLASS IV	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/29
CHRISTOPHER MONTALVO – CLASS IV	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
PATRICK LESBIREL – ALTERNATE 1	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/27
MICHAEL TAYLOR – ALTERNATE 2	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26

Board of Adjustment

ROBERT FARRELL, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/29
PHIL KORNBLUH, ALTERNATE 1	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/27

Board of Health

JOHN TOBIA, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
DR. GORDON BOAK, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/29
PAM SOKOLER, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/29
DR. MARK MCCOLLUM, ALTERNATE 1	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
JOE ABUTEL, ALTERNATE 2	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26

Environmental Commission

JOHN TOBIA, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
CONNIE DEMAIO, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
THOMAS E. HENNESSY, JR. CHAIRPERSON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
EVAN STIVALA, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
MICHAEL TAYLOR, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28

Recreation Committee

MICHAEL VIOLA, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
CHRISTOPHER MONTALVO, CHAIR	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
PAUL WILD, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28

Farmland and Open Space Committee

JOHN TOBIA, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
JONATHAN FABOZZI, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
MICHAEL STIVALA, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
THOMAS MORIN, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
CONNIE DEMAIO, ALTERNATE 1	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26

Agricultural Advisory Committee

JENA COSIMO, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
THOMAS MORIN, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
MICHAEL STIVALA, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26

Historic Preservation Committee

FRANK RIZZUTO, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26

JACK THOMPSON, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
MICHELLE WARENDORF, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
MICHELLE WEISBROT, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
JOANNE PASSALACQUA, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
MAGGIE OSMULSKI, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
JANINE PINGUELO STRAFACI, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
JAMES SCHATZLE, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28

Local Emergency Planning Committee

FRANK RIZZUTO, LIAISON	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/26
DAVE SATTEL, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
KEVIN KNECHT, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28
NICHOLAS LAVALLE, MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES 12/31/28

Mr. Tobia opined that he found it interesting that the Department of Public Works liaison position was eliminated stating that he was advised by the Township Administrator that it was at her recommendation that it be eliminated. He further opined that he was not afforded any discussions with members of the Governing Body on this matter nor was there a vote taken. Mr. Tobia state that he further found it interesting that the liaison position was eliminated given that he has 39 plus years of public works experience and was involved with the downsizing of the Colts Neck Department of Public Works. Mr. Tobia stated that he assures his colleagues that he will direct all questions and inquires through the Administrator for answers, but it will not silence him as an official to ask questions about public works and to assist the public works department. Mr. Tobia stated that he has the utmost respect for the Director of Public Works, Lou Bader, and the phenomenal job he and his team has done for the community.

15. **Resolution 2026-1: Confirming Appointment of Township Professionals Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.**

Mr. Tobia stated that he was not consulted at any time on who the professionals were or what their responses to the RFPs were. He stated that he found it strange that he was told that the information was privileged noting that he was later provided with a spreadsheet detailing the professionals who submitted RFPs and the selections made. Mr. Tobia stated that he will vote "Yes" for those professionals identified as numbers 4, 5, 11, 12, and 15; "No" for number 7 stating that he did not believe Mr. Trautner, affordable housing attorney, represented the Township's interests properly; and "Abstains" for numbers 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, and 19. Attorney Bennett responded stating that all discussions regarding the RFPs and professionals took place in Executive Session and as such was privileged noting that the Township Administrator does not have the authority to share details about discussions that take place in Executive Session. Further, Ms. Bennett reminded Mr. Tobia that he declined the invitation to attend the Executive Session that discussed the professionals and RFP submissions.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta		X			
Rizzuto	S	X			
Torchia Buss	M	X			
Tobia		*			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

* Mr. Tobia advised that he votes "Yes" for professionals identified as numbers 4, 5, 11, 12 and 15; "No" for number 7; and "Abstains" for numbers 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, and 19.

16. **Recognition of Colts Neck Township First Responders – Police, Fire, Fire Police and First Aid**

Mayor Viola recognized all first responders and thanked them for their sacrifice and service.

Ms. Buss express her heartfelt admiration for the work of the first responders and thanked Chief Sauter and Deputy Chief Cusate for their support during the 2025 year stating that it was an honor to be the Liaison to the Fire Department.

Committeewoman Buss swore in Fire Chief Mike Cusate and Deputy Fire Chief John Sauter.

17. **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Viola stated that all items listed on the "Consent Agenda" are considered routine by the Township and are adopted or approved collectively by a single motion and roll-call vote of a majority of the Township Committee. If discussion is desired on any item, it is considered separately.

Resolution 2026-2: Confirming appointments to the Planning Board

Resolution 2026-3: Confirming appointments to the Board of Adjustment

Resolution 2026-4: Confirming appointments to the Board of Health

Resolution 2026-5: Confirming appointments to the Environmental Commission

Resolution 2026-6: Confirming appointments to the Recreation Committee

Resolution 2026-7: Confirming appointments to the Farmland and Open Space Committee

Resolution 2026-8: Confirming appointments to the Agricultural Advisory Committee

Resolution 2026-9: Confirming appointments to the Historic Preservation Committee

Resolution 2026-10: Confirming appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee

Resolution 2026-11: Confirming designation of municipal depositories

Resolution 2026-12: Authorizing adoption of a temporary budget for 2026

Resolution 2026-13: Authorizing establishment of fees, penalties and interest rates for 2026

Resolution 2026-14: Authorizing pre-payment of certain items

Resolution 2026-15: Authorizing Colts Neck Township's Cash Management Plan

Resolution 2026-16: Confirming appointment of Community Development Representative, Kathleen Capristo

Resolution 2026-17: Confirming designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer P.A.C.O., Kathleen Capristo

Resolution 2026-18: Confirming appointment of Mid Jersey Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner, Kathleen Capristo

Resolution 2026-19: Confirming appointment of Recycling Coordinator, Jeanie Roseti

Resolution 2026-20: Approving use of Robert's Rules of Order for Township Committee Meetings

Resolution 2026-21: Designation of official township newspapers

Resolution 2026-22: Requiring direct deposit of payroll checks

Resolution 2026-23: Authorizing cancellation of tax debit and credit balances of less than $5.00

Resolution 2026-24: Payment of claims, claimant's signature for payment

Resolution 2026-25: Authorizes the Tax Collector to conduct an electronic tax sale on delinquent property taxes

Resolution 2026-26: Confirming 2026 Township Committee Meeting Schedule

Resolution 2026-27: Appointing Custodian of Records for the Colts Neck Police Department

Mayor Viola called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Rizzuto, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolutions on the consent agenda were adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Viola		X			
Deputy Mayor Buzzetta	S	X			
Rizzuto	M	X			
Torchia Buss		X			
Tobia		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

Mr. Tobia advised that he was not consulted on Resolution 2026-12: Authorizing adoption of a temporary budget for 2026 but that he finds CFO, John Antonides to be very capable and as such he trusts the numbers needed for the temporary budget and will vote "Yes".

18. **Final Comments by Mayor Viola**

Mayor Viola thanked everyone for attending the meeting and noted that a great deal of the attendees are Township volunteers noting that public service is a "team sport" and the volunteers are what make the Colts Neck team function so very well. Mr. Viola also thanked our neighbors at Naval Weapons Station Earle.

19. **Benediction: Pastor Chris Durkin, Colts Neck Community Church**

Pastor Durkin provided the following benediction:

Let's pray together, everyone, shall we? Let's pray. Heavenly Father, we have after following all the procedures, taking all the oaths, giving all the comments, now we entrust it all to You. Help us to be still and know that You are God. God, for our leadership, we pray for grace and guidance. Lord, for our outgoing Committeewoman, Sue Fitzpatrick, continued encouragement and peace. For our new Township Committeeman, John Tobia, continued wisdom and strength. For our Mayor, Father God, may You continue to give him wisdom as he leads this wonderful town. But now, Lord, together we thank You for another year. We thank You for this amazing country. We thank You that we are blessed to live in the town of Colts Neck. So, may You bless our churches and our schools, our first responders and our teachers. May You be with everyone as we remember our common faith, our common love for God, love for neighbor, and that we are so blessed to live in this beautiful town. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. God bless you all. Thank you.

20. **Adjournment**

As there was no further business, Mayor Viola called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Committeeman Rizzuto, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buzzetta and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Kathleen Capristo, RMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: January 14, 2026