

MARCH 16, 2026

Mayor Susan R. Marshall called the regular meeting of the Tuckerton Borough Council to order on March 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Tuckerton Borough Hall.

Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act were complied with as notice was published in the *Beacon* and the *Asbury Park Press* stating the time, date and place of this meeting.

The following members of Council were in attendance: Keith Vreeland, Brian Martin, Sam Colangelo, Frank D' Amore, Michael Dupuis Sr., Ron Peterson and Mayor Susan R. Marshall.

Mayor Marshall led the salute to the flag.

Mr. Martin announced that the Borough's website now features a link to legal publications, found under the Community tab. All Borough publications and public notices can be found there, in compliance with state standards for electronic filing of notices. This eliminates the need for hard press publications.

RESOLUTION #68-26

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON,
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #68-26 be approved authorizing payment of claims in the amount of \$651,823.37. It was so moved by the majority consent of Council. Mr. Dupuis abstained from bills paid to Fire District Number 3 and Great Bay Regional Squad 85.

RESOLUTION #69-26

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON,
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
APPOINTING JENNIFER MC CORRY AS TREASURER
FOR THE BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON**

Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #69-26 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

RESOLUTION #70-26

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON,
COUNTY OF OCEAN STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
CANCELING CERTAIN TAX DEBIT AND CREDIT
BALANCES UNDER TEN DOLLARS**

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Mr. Martin moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #70-26 be approved as read. It was so moved the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Colangelo announced that the Public Works yard will be closed on Friday, April 3, 2026, and will reopen on Sunday, April 5, 2026, after which it will be open every Sunday. Information regarding Ocean County household hazardous waste disposal and document shredding events is available on the Borough's website.

RESOLUTION #71-26

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A ROAD OPENING PERMIT ON LAKE STREET FOR BLOCK 5 LOT 14 AND GRANTING RELIEF UNDER SECTION 229-15 OF THE BOROUGH CODE

Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that Resolution #71-26 be approved as read. It was so moved the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Dupuis moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the minutes of the meeting of February 17, 2026 be approved with corrections. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of Council.

Mr. Dupuis read the Construction and Code Enforcement report for February 2026; a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office for public inspection.

Mr. Dupuis read the Parkertown Fire Company report for February 2026; a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office for public inspection.

Mr. Dupuis relayed a message from Chief Runza that members of Station 70, Parkertown Fire Company, assisted Tuckerton Borough in clearing driveways to enable Squad 85 to safely remove patients from their homes. The Parkertown Fire Company plow vehicle also responded to elderly residents who were unable to clear their own driveways or where it was otherwise necessary to do so. Chief Runza wished to thank the Public Works Department and the Police Department for their outstanding performance during the storm, noting that Tuckerton exceeded expectations compared to surrounding communities. Mr. Dupuis also extended thanks to the Fire Department and EMS for their efforts.

Mayor Marshall thanked all departments, noting that everyone is working together to get the necessary jobs done. She congratulated Mr. Dupuis, advising that he was recognized for his work and contributions at the Parkertown Fire Company installation of officers ceremony. Mayor Marshall noted that she has a plaque to present on behalf of the Borough, but due to her office relocation she was unable to bring it to this meeting. She will present the plaque at the next meeting.

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Mr. Peterson read the Police Department's report for the February 2026; a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office for public inspection.

Ms. Gleghorn would like to recognize all employees, with a special thanks to the Public Works and Water and Sewer crews for their efforts during the recent snowstorm. They worked long hours, went above and beyond, and assisted neighboring towns and residents.

She noted their dedication and outstanding performance, often working independently. Although the Tuckerton Beach area was not plowed immediately due to saltwater conditions, crews responded as soon as possible.

Mayor Marshall thanked everyone who attended the Fourth of July fireworks fundraiser spaghetti dinner held on March 2nd at the Redmen. She noted that the event was well attended, the food was excellent as always, and it was a great success.

Mr. Colangelo moved, seconded by Mr. Vreeland that the meeting be opened to the public. So moved.

Paul Solimani 20 Edgewater Drive, reported a water leak on Edgewater Drive and made the call for assistance. The Water and Sewer Department responded promptly, even over the weekend, and returned Monday morning to complete the repair, doing an excellent job. He commended the department for their efforts.

He also thanked Mr. Martin for attending the Paradise Cove and Uplanders meeting and explaining shoreline restoration to residents. Lastly, he expressed appreciation for the crews' overall work, including their excellent snow removal efforts.

Eric Hansen, 389 South Street, Mr. Hansen addressed the Council regarding the New Jersey REAL Act (Resilient Environments and Landscapes) and the current legislative resolution (Senate Concurrent Resolution, introduced February 24) opposing the NJ DEP's proposed rules.

He asked whether the Borough and Council had joined the coalition opposing the REAL Act rules and whether the governing body supports the current resolution.

Ms. Gleghorn responded that the governing body had already adopted a resolution opposing the REAL Act at the outset of the coalition effort, which was initiated with the mayor of a Long Beach Island municipality. She noted that the coalition had not yet forwarded a newer resolution to the Borough, but that she remains in contact with coalition representatives.

Mr. Hansen summarized his concerns regarding the proposed DEP rules, including:

He noted that the proposed rules require a 4-foot sea level rise projection over 75 years (reduced from a prior proposal of 5 feet), which he characterized as still highly disruptive to coastal communities. He also noted that New Jersey has spent approximately \$1 billion on climate change initiatives since 2016, and expressed concern that grants issued to coastal communities prior to publication of the proposed rules could be perceived as discouraging opposition.

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Mr. Hansen further argued that the administrative notice (104 pages) and full rule text (1,440+ pages) are written in complex legal language inaccessible to average residents, which he contended fails to meet the meaningful notice standard required under administrative law.

He raised concerns about the intersection of the proposed rules with the New Jersey Tidelands Act, noting that if sea levels rise as projected and the state's high-water boundary advances, the state could claim ownership of currently private coastal property. He stated that neither the DEP nor the state has answered his repeated questions on this matter.

He also noted that Governor Murphy signed the rules on his last day in office, that the current governor has not yet taken a public position, and that a 120-day legislative freeze is currently in effect.

Mr. Martin followed up, noting that the DEP's stated position is that the REAL Act rules will not affect flood insurance rates, as insurance companies base rates on FEMA maps rather than state maps. He expressed personal skepticism that insurance companies would not ultimately seek to use any new regulatory framework to their advantage. Mr. Martin reiterated that the rules are, in his view, detrimental to coastal communities, and noted that the legislative concurrent resolution does not require the Governor's signature — only a majority in the legislature.

Discussion also touched on the statistical basis for the 4-foot sea level rise projection, which Mr. Martin noted carried a roughly 30% probability in the underlying study, while the 6-inch to 18-inch range carried approximately 80% probability. He questioned why the DEP chose to use the lowest-probability projection as the basis for the rules.

There be no further questions or comments, Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the public portion be closed. So moved.

Mr. Colangelo moved, second by Mr. Vreeland that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved at 7:36 pm. So moved.

Respectfully submitted,

**JENNY GLEGHORN, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK**

Approved:

**SUSAN R. MARSHALL
MAYOR**