



Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Phone: 908-204-3001; Fax: 908-204-3015; Website: www.bernards.org

Mayor Field's Reorganization Meeting Speech 01/02/2025

Happy New Year and thank you to all who are here and those of you watching online.

Thank you to my colleagues on the Township Committee for allowing me the honor of and privilege of serving as your Mayor in 2025. I look forward to serving with the Township Committee to meet the needs of our Bernards Township residents.

I would like to take a moment to congratulate Andrew McNally as Deputy Mayor and thank our outgoing Mayor Jen Asay for her service in 2024.

Also, a very warm welcome to our elected officials who are with us here tonight.

A special thank you to my husband Barry and sons, Avery and Jeremy for their support, love and understanding for the tremendous commitment that is required to serve as the Mayor and Township Committee member.

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful staff and first responders. You are the heart and soul of our community.

As we face new challenges in 2025, rest assured that our Township Committee, Township Staff, Township Professionals, and our Volunteers will continue to be more than up to the task.

One of the first tasks is to set clear priorities and goals for our community. This involves listening to your concerns and addressing your needs. Whether it's improving infrastructure, enhancing public safety, better communication or promoting economic development, the agenda should reflect the community's values and needs. Those priorities and goals will always be set collaboratively and transparently with all members of the TC and our community.

Principal among our goals is to continue to provide the essential needs that local government strives to deliver day in and day out. Among these are the following:

- Maintain effective and efficient operations and governance.
- Continue fiscal prudence,
- Meet our 4th round Affordable Housing obligations while maintaining the character of the Township.
- Continue to work with our Police Department and surrounding neighbors to provide a safe and secure Township.



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- Continue to evaluate and fund Capital Programs to strengthen our infrastructure while maintaining responsible Budgets.

Bernards Township is known for being a debt free community. We also pride ourselves on being one of the safest and most well-run Townships with some of the best schools and property values in the nation. These qualities continue to position Bernards Township as one of the best communities in the Country. We will not rest on these laurels but continue to strive to make Bernards Township even better.

In conclusion, I am grateful and humbled to serve as your mayor again and look forward to collaborating with my colleagues and staff to serve the needs of our community in the upcoming year.

Thank you and God Bless.

Janice M. Fields
Bernards Township Mayor