

Moench Announces Michael J. Pappas As Bridgewater's Next Township Administrator

*Former U.S Congressman, Bush Administration Official Will Also Co-Chair Moench Transition
with Incoming Council President Howard Norgalis*

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Contact: Megan Attanasio (rightforbridgewater@gmail.com)

Bridgewater, NJ – Mayor-Elect Matthew C. Moench has announced former Congressman Michael J. Pappas as his selection as Bridgewater Township Administrator for a term to commence on January 1, 2020. Pappas will also serve along with incoming Council President Howard Norgalis as co-chairman of Moench's transition team and assist in preparing for the transfer of responsibilities between the administrations that will take place on January 1st.

“Bridgewater Township has nearly 45,000 residents and spans over thirty square miles. Our town is at the crossroads of Central Jersey and faces a broad spectrum of challenges and opportunities. Our Township Administrator must have a wealth of experience managing government organizations, be a proven problem-solver, and be able to provide our residents with a responsive, user-friendly government,” said Moench. “In Mike Pappas, we have checked every one of those boxes and have found an individual who will be ready to start delivering for Bridgewater residents on his very first day.”

“I am excited to take on the challenge of helping to govern this great community. I represented Bridgewater on the Freeholder Board and am well-aware of this town's rich history. This is a town with a great sense of community and a bright, dynamic future. I share Mayor-Elect Moench's vision of a responsive, common-sense government and am honored to be joining his team in this leadership role,” said Pappas. “Howard and I are already working with residents and stakeholders so this new administration will be prepared to get to work for Bridgewater's taxpayers on its first day in office.”

“I have known Mike Pappas for decades and am pleased to be working with him on both the transition and in his future capacity as Township Administrator,” said Councilman Norgalis, Bridgewater's incoming council president for 2020. “Mike's resume is sterling, with service at virtually every level of government and a wealth of experience and leadership that will serve our town well.”

“As we get ready to start a new decade, suburban communities like Bridgewater face challenges that are as complex as they are novel,” said Moench. “As we navigate these turbulent waters, we need to stand together as a community and strive to keep Bridgewater a town we can be proud of. Mike Pappas will help lead our town forward, joining our fight to stop overdevelopment, bring a renewed sense of fiscal accountability to Bridgewater's budget, and implement a transparent, workable infrastructure plan to improve our Township's roads. We are proud and honored to have him on our team.”

Mr. Pappas comes to Bridgewater from the Borough of High Bridge in Hunterdon County, where he has served as Borough Administrator since 2016, also holding licenses or certifications as an Affordable Housing Professional, a Certified Municipal Registrar, and a Zoning Official. A former mayor of Franklin Township (Somerset) and a Somerset County Freeholder, Mike was elected in 1996 to serve in the 105th United States Congress from New Jersey's 12th District. He served as Regional Administrator and Associate Administrator of Field Operations for the U.S. Small Business Administration from 2001 until 2009. He presently serves on the Somerset County Board of Taxation and volunteers his time with the Somerset County 4-H.

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