

**MOENCH KIRSH RING**

for MAYOR

for COUNCIL

*Right For Bridgewater*

**Bridgewater P.B.A. Local #174 Endorses Matthew Moench for  
Bridgewater Mayor**

For Immediate Release  
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BRIDGEWATER, NJ, June 1, 2019 — Bridgewater P.B.A. Local # 174 has endorsed mayoral candidate Matthew Moench in the Republican Mayoral Primary to be held on June 4, 2019.

According to the Bridgewater P.B.A.'s statement, "Matthew Moench has shown that Bridgewater's Public Safety is his top priority."

"The safety of the residents of Bridgewater and the safety of the police officers has always been and will always be my top priority," said Council President Matthew Moench, "There is no greater function that government does daily than this. I am honored to have received this endorsement. I am proud of Bridgewater's police department. I will make sure that Bridgewater continues to have a police department that is professional, well trained, courteous, and properly staffed."


On the June 4th primary, Bridgewater Republican voters will decide who will be their mayoral candidate in November between the incumbent Mayor Dan Hayes and the Bridgewater Republican Municipal Committee endorsed Matthew Moench.


The Bridgewater P.B.A. decided to issue a press release and endorsement "that informs the public of facts," and was critical of the Mayor's campaign advertisements describing himself a "top supporter of public safety and law enforcement." The P.B.A. also criticized the Mayor's "recent political advertisements that show support for hiring 12 more officers," calling it "preposterous when the current members do not have a contract."

The Bridgewater P.B.A. stated, "While Matthew Moench has also stood against Mayor Hayes with increasing the manpower of the police department, it is not for the reason that Mayor Hayes is publicizing. Matthew Moench has openly and publicly discussed his reasons. Matthew Moench has advocated for settling the police contract first and actually trying to keep current officers from transferring to neighboring departments. He has also suggested that an independent study of the department be conducted so that when additional officers are hired, it is done with knowledge that will ensure it is the correct number of officers."

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“The Mayor has run an unprecedented attack campaign funded by hundreds of thousand of dollars of outside money from developers, part bosses, and other special interests, blatantly lying to the public about who I am and what I stand for. I appreciate the courage the P.B.A. had in calling out the Mayor and setting the record straight. From my days as a volunteer with the Martinsville Rescue Squad, I have been deeply concerned about public safety and law enforcement, and will always place our residents’ safety first,” stated Moench.

“Matthew Moench has had an open dialogue with the P.B.A. for several years. Although at times we may not agree, both sides are always amiable about our disagreements and work together to find the solutions that are best for Bridgewater Township,” added the Bridgewater P.B.A. statement.

“It’s about working together for common solutions,” added Moench, “In the end, it’s all about doing what’s right for Bridgewater.”

Moench is a lifelong resident of Bridgewater, and is running for mayor after serving over 11 years on the Township Council. Prior, he served two years on the Board of Adjustment. He runs a small general practice law office, is married, and has 3 children. Moench said, “I have three children in the Bridgewater public schools, my wife is a volunteer in several organizations, and I have been committed to public service from as far as I can remember. We love Bridgewater, want to protect its quality of life, maintain fiscal conservative policies, and keep Bridgewater a safe community for all.”

The Bridgewater P.B.A. Local # 174’s full statement is attached.

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# BRIDGEWATER P.B.A.

## LOCAL # 174



P.O. Box 6664 ★ Bridgewater, NJ ★ 08807-0664

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### Press Release

With the upcoming primary election and the relentless political advertisements used by Mayor Hayes that show him as a top supporter of public safety and law enforcement, the Bridgewater P.B.A. has decided to release a statement that informs the public of the facts, while also announcing our endorsement for the Mayoral Primary.

The recent political advertisements that show support for the hiring of 12 more officers is preposterous when the current members do not have a contract. Under Mayor Hayes and his administration, the Bridgewater P.B.A. is once again working without a contract. We do not publicize this through lawn signs or public statements because we understand that this is the reality of collective bargaining. However, after 15 months of negotiations we recently settled a one year contract for the year 2018 that included one minor change. The day that this contract was signed, we were immediately without a contract again.

In 2013 in an unprecedented act by the township, Mayor Hayes and his administration refused to provide officers with their rightfully due step raises. This led the Bridgewater P.B.A. to take Bridgewater Township to the New Jersey State Supreme Court. The Supreme Court found that Bridgewater Township committed an unfair labor practice without attempting to negotiate in good faith when they denied Bridgewater P.B.A. members of their step raises. (*See Township of Bridgewater v. PBA Local 174*). This reckless and unlawful decision by Mayor Hayes cost the township a significant amount of money in legal fees. The harm done by this act further added to the poor reputation within the County and State with the way that Bridgewater Township treats its officers. As a result, we have had several officers leave for other agencies that have better working relationships with their township administration.

In 2015, under Mayor Hayes' leadership, the Bridgewater Police Dispatch was dissolved. Mayor Hayes promised both the police department and the residents of Bridgewater that the service would be equal to or better than what our current dispatch provided. Mayor Hayes also stated that there would be a cost savings to the township of \$4.5 million over 10 years. We have not seen either of those promises come true.

Matthew Moench has had an open dialogue with the P.B.A. for several years. Although at times we may not agree, both sides are always amicable about our disagreements and work together to find the solutions that are best for Bridgewater Township. Matthew Moench has shown that Bridgewater's Public Safety is his top priority, as he stood against the disbanding of Bridgewater Dispatch. While Matthew Moench has also stood against Mayor Hayes with increasing the manpower of the police department, it is not for the reason that Mayor Hayes is publicizing. Matthew Moench has openly and publicly discussed his reasons. Matthew Moench has advocated for settling the police contract first and actually trying to keep current officers from transferring to neighboring departments. He has also suggested that an independent study



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of the department be conducted so that when additional officers are hired, it is done with knowledge that will ensure it is the correct number of officers.

Due to these issues, Bridgewater P.B.A Local #174 is proud to endorse Matthew Moench in this Republican Mayoral Primary on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

In closing, we would like to thank everyone for all of the support that we receive through our interactions with you on a daily basis. In speaking with many of you, we know that you appreciate all that we do and are proud to live in a community with a nationally accredited police department and professional officers. We take pride in our work and try to provide the best service that we can regardless of outside circumstances and political climates.

Sincerely,

Bridgewater P.B.A. 174