



MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Thursday, January 25, 2024
7:00 PM

To view the Mayor & Council meeting via livestream, please access the YouTube link which is posted on the Northvale website, www.northvalenj.org. Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT NOTICE

This is a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale. The date, time and location of this meeting have been advertised in the official Newspaper of the Borough, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been fulfilled. Please note the fire exits as required by law at public meetings.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor McGuire asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag. He also asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence remembering former Mayor Bill Lenskold who passed away two weeks ago.

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call of the new Council:

Mayor McGuire	Present	Councilwoman McMorrow	Present
Councilman Bakalian	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Absent

Other Officials Present:

Kenneth Ralph, Borough Attorney
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Sine Die Meeting of December 27, 2023. Motion was made by Councilman Menafr, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Abstain	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Absent
Mayor McGuire	Yes		

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2024. Motion was made by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilman Bakalian.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Absent

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Interlocal Agreement with Borough of Westwood
For Deposit and Staging of Municipal Leaves and Related Debris
(Resolution #2024-31)
2. Approval Temporary Appointment of C. Martone as Temporary Judge
(Resolution #2024-32)



3. Corrective Action Plan for 2022 Audit
(Resolution #2024-34)

RESOLUTIONS – Consent Agenda –

“All items are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Any item may be removed for further discussion or for a roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business”.

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #2024-30 through 2024-34. Motion was made by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

RESOLUTION #2024-30

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BERGEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Northvale has entered into a three-year Cooperative Agreement with the County of Bergen as provided under the Interlocal Services Act N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. and Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and

WHEREAS, said Agreement requires that the Municipal Council appoint a representative and alternate and that the Mayor appoint a representative and alternate for the FY 2023-2024 term starting July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council hereby appoints Mayor Joseph McGuire as its representative and Councilwoman Kara McMorrow as its alternate and that Mayor McGuire hereby appoints Councilman Mattessich as his representative and Councilwoman Fernandez as his alternate to serve on the Community Development Regional Committee for FY2023-2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an original, certified copy of this resolution be immediately emailed to Robert G. Esposito, Director resposito@co.bergen.nj.us **as soon as possible and no later than Friday, February 16, 2024.**

RESOLUTION #2024-31

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD FOR THE DEPOSIT AND STAGING OF MUNICIPAL LEAVES AND RELATED DEBRIS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale believes it is in the best interest of the Borough to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Borough of Westwood regarding the staging of leaves and other debris; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to continue the Agreement through December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has reviewed the pricing for the deposit and staging which will be managed by the Borough of Northvale, and finds it to be fair, and adequate compensates the Borough of Northvale for its services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Governing Body hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute a three year interlocal agreement with the Borough of Westwood for said service.



RESOLUTION #2024-32

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTOPHER MARTONE AS TEMPORARY JUDGE FOR THE NORTHVALE MUNICIPAL COURT

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-5, a temporary judge may be appointed to meet a special need of limited duration; and

WHEREAS, with the written consent of the Assignment Judge of the vicinage, a municipality may appoint one or more temporary municipal judges; and

WHEREAS, Northvale previously appointed Roger Hauser to serve as the Municipal Judge for the Borough of Northvale; and

WHEREAS, Judge Hauser has, at times, been unable to serve due to temporary personal reasons necessitating the appointment of a temporary municipal Judge in his stead; and

WHEREAS, request was made to the Bergen County Assignment Judge, Judge Catuogno, requesting authorization to appoint a Temporary Judge for the Borough of Northvale; and

WHEREAS, by notice dated January 16, 2024, the Borough has received authorization to appoint by resolution one temporary Judge for the Northvale Municipal Court for a period not to exceed one (1) year; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Martone is a member of the New Jersey Bar in good standing and has applied to serve as the Temporary Judge of the Municipal Court of the Borough of Northvale; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough to appoint Christopher Martone as the Temporary Municipal Judge of the Borough of Northvale.

NOW, THEREAFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Christopher Martone is hereby appointed as the Temporary Municipal Judge effective immediately, at the rate of \$250.00 per Court Session for a term not to exceed one (1) year.

RESOLUTION #2024-33

TITLE: RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & AUTHORIZE THE BOROUGH ATTORNEY TO PREPARE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS FOR SAME

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale requires the services of several professionals for the year 2024 as required by law and is authorized to retain such professionals without public bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(i) of the Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the year 2024 will contain the necessary appropriations in such amount as may be reasonably estimated and required for each such professional; and

WHEREAS, Mayor McGuire has duly appointed, and the Council of the Borough of Northvale has duly confirmed, the following professional appointments for the year ending December 31, 2024:

- Risk Management Consultant** - Barsa Insurance Agency
469 Livingston Street
Northvale, New Jersey 07647
- Duration - January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
- Amount - Fee as promulgated by the JIF and MEL
- IT Consultant** - Dart Computer Services, Inc.
600 Kennedy Court
River Vale, New Jersey 07675



- Duration - January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
- Amount - Fee as per RFQ received December 2023
- Financial Management Services** - Battaglia Associates, LLC
490 Ridgefield Terrace
Fairview, New Jersey 07022
- Duration - January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024
- Amount - Fee as per RFQ received December 2023

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the services to be rendered pursuant hereto are hereby determined to be “Professional Services” pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(6) and the same are to be performed by a person and entity authorized by law to practice a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby direct the Borough Attorney to prepare the Professional Service Agreements for execution and delivery by all of the above professionals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to cause a notice of the Contract Award to be published as required by law.

RESOLUTION #2024-34

TITLE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE 2022 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the 2022 Annual Audit of the Borough of Northvale conducted by Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo & Cuva PA, contained certain recommendations requiring action; and

WHEREAS, these recommendations have been reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer in accordance with the requirements promulgated by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, has developed a plan to address the recommendations listed by the auditor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Corrective Action Plan for 2022 for the 2022 Annual Audit, hereto attached, is hereby approved and accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution and its attachments to the Division of Local Government Services.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Consent Resolutions only. There being no questions, or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Absent

Mayor McGuire informed the Council that he has added Old Business and New Business discussions to the Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

No one had any old business to discuss at this time.



NEW BUSINESS

Mayor McGuire attended a seminar on the New Jersey Motion Picture and Film Commission. There are 3 movie studios opening in New Jersey. We need an ordinance drawn up as to what fees would be charged if a film company would want to film in Northvale. Right now if a production comes into Northvale to film, there is no fee charged. This could generate revenue for the Borough. The Motion Picture and Film Commission has a database of where to film. Councilman Bakalian and Council President McMorrow were interested in spearheading this.

Mayor McGuire also spoke about the banners for the Veterans that are hung on Paris Avenue and Livingston Street. This program has grown considerably from when it first started. There are no rules and no program in place. He would like the town to take over this project. Mayor McGuire asked if anyone on the Council would be interested in spearheading this. He would like to finalize this by the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 PM. Motion was made by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Councilman Menafra. All were in favor of adjourning.

Joseph E. McGuire

Mayor

ATTEST:

Frances M. Weston

Frances M. Weston
Municipal Clerk

Approved: February 14, 2024