



**MINUTES**  
**Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council**  
**Wednesday, November 8, 2023**  
**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](http://www.northvalenj.org). Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at 116 Paris Avenue, Northvale, New Jersey 07647.

**Mayor McGuire read the Open Public Meetings Act Notice into the record as follows:**

*“This is a Combined 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 FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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 for peace in the world specifically the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Also keep in your thoughts and prayers our armed forces especially those overseas. Keep our Veterans in your thoughts and prayers as Saturday is Veterans Day.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:**

Mayor McGuire	Present	Council President McMorrow	Present
Councilman Argiro	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilman Hogan	Present	Councilman Menafra	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

Councilman Menafra was present via conference call.

**Other Officials Present:**

Robert Ferraro, Borough Attorney  
Yasseen Saad, Borough Engineer  
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

**PRESENTATION by John Glidden and Meaghan Presutti.**

Mr. Glidden spoke about the Difference Program. This is a funding mechanism designed to cut down on health insurance premiums which will save both the Borough and employees a lot of money. Closter has started enrollment.

Meaghan Presutti from the Difference Card explained the program to the Mayor and Council. This is a voluntary plan for the employees. The current cost for 2023 the Borough is paying is about \$625,000 for insurance for the employees. Renewal costs for 2024 will be going up 7.5% for the state health benefits plan, no matter which plan you are in. The employees' contribution will go up 7.5% as well as the Borough's will go up 7.5%. Difference card offers a 2035 plan. Employees enroll in Horizon's 2035 plan, and we fund the difference and bring them back to NJ Direct 10. From going to Direct 10 to 2035 it is a 14-1/2% decrease in what the Borough will pay. What the Borough will get billed for everything, including claims and contributions, it is a 9.2% decrease in what you would pay in 2024 through the state. The net savings to the town is \$104,957 if all employees enroll. The maximum liability for claims for the Borough to pay is \$574,000. NJ Direct 10 will become 2035 with the same coverage and deductibles. Employees will receive a benefits card to swipe for the copay difference. The employee will pay the same copay and give the difference card for the additional amount. This is a win win for the Borough. It is a universal card. If the doctor does not accept the card, the member will have to pay upfront but will get reimbursed within two days. Borough Attorney Ferraro asked if the only cost is the administrative fee. Ms. Presutti replied the one time set up fee is \$2,250 which is built in. A resolution and memorandum of agreement must be sent to the state. After the state



approves, they will tell when the effective date will be which is typically 60-90 days. A Difference Card representative will come to the Borough to educate the employees.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second. Motion made by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Sokoloski.**

**RESOLUTION #2023-162**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DIFFERENCE CARD PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Difference Card Program is an employer funded program that may reduce health insurance costs for the Borough of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, employee participation in the Difference Card Program is Optional and at no additional cost to employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the Difference Card will reduce employee premiums and also will reduce health insurance costs to the Borough.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough of Northvale hereby authorizes participation in the Difference Card program and authorizes its officials to enter into agreements for that purpose.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

**Hovannes Bakalian, 164 Livingston Street** – stated that you pay the lower plan rates but receive the benefits of a higher plan.

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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of October 11, 2023. Motion was made by Councilman Argiro, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE**

The following reports are on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office and can be viewed by the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Building Department
- Engineer – Neglia Group
- Fire Prevention
- Grantswriter - Bruno Associates
- Recreation Minutes
- Tax Collector

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Best Practices Checklist Inventory  
(Resolution #2023-164)
2. Colliers Engineering Letter, dated October 17, 2023  
Re: 2024 Riverside Coop Paving Program



- (Resolution #2023-165)
- 3. Neglia Letter, dated October 26, 2023  
Re: Recommendation of Award-Veterans Drive Phase II  
(Resolution #2023-168)

**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 #2023-163 through 2023-172. Motion was made by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Council President McMorrow.**

**RESOLUTION #2023-163**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale, a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of New Jersey, seeks qualifications and proposals from qualified professionals to provide essential services for the Borough’s operations and functions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale seeks to employ a ‘Fair and Open Process’ as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, 20.5 et seq. for the purpose of soliciting qualified professionals to provide services as required by the Borough for the year 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this 8th day of November 2023, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to take, or cause to be taken, all acts necessary to publish the Legal Notice required to solicit for professional qualifications for all professional positions required by the Borough in the usual course of business pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, 20.5 et seq. in a newspaper of general circulation for the Borough of Northvale, and/or on the Borough of Northvale website, [www.northvalenj.org](http://www.northvalenj.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-164**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING BOROUGH OF MONTVALE TO JOIN THE RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale is the Lead Agency for the Riverside Cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Montvale would like to join the Riverside Cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale as Lead Agency agree to allow the Borough of Montvale to join the Riverside Cooperative.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough of Montvale may join the Riverside Cooperative effective immediately.

\*\*\*\*\*



**RESOLUTION #2023-165**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE BEST PRACTICES CHECKLIST INVENTORY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE**

**WHEREAS**, Local Finance Notice 2023-17 mandates that the municipality shall submit by November 3, 2023 to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services a report describing the municipality’s compliance with the “Best Practices Inventory”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs established the Best Practices Inventory on August 27, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the report is required to be signed by the Chief Financial Officer and the Municipal Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the governing body have reviewed the Best Practices Inventory questions and answers being submitted.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Local Government Best Practices Checklist, as completed by the Chief Financial Officer is hereby approved for submission to the Director of Local Government Services.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-166**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES RELATED TO 2024 RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE PAVING PROGRAM – PROPOSAL NO. 23013518P**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the Borough has entered into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement (the “Cooperative Agreement”) with the Boroughs of Alpine, Bergenfield, Closter, Cresskill, Demarest, Dumont, Englewood Cliffs, Harrington Park, Harrington Park BOE, Haworth, Hillsdale, Little Ferry, Montvale, New Milford, Northvale, Norwood, River Edge, and Tenafly located within the County of Bergen (hereinafter referred to as the “2024 Riverside Cooperative”); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement the Borough of Northvale has been designated as the Lead Agency for the purchase of work, materials, and supplies for the 2024 Riverside Cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, Colliers Engineering & Design has submitted an agreement to provide professional engineering services for the coordination of the 2024 Riverside Cooperative Paving Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Colliers Engineering & Design has presented the Borough of Northvale, as the Lead Agency, an agreement for design services only in the amount of Six Thousand, Seven Hundred, Fifty Dollars (\$6,750.00) to be shared by the participating municipalities and Boards of the 2024 Riverside Cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Borough and the 2024 Riverside Cooperative to execute the Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale hereby authorizes the payment of \$6,750.00 to Colliers Engineering & Design to be shared by the participating municipalities and Boards of the 2024 Riverside Cooperative, for design services only.

\*\*\*\*\*



**RESOLUTION #2023-167**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING REVOLUTIONNJ**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Philip Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature created RevolutionNJ in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, New Jersey's pivotal role in the American Revolution, and the contributions of its diverse peoples to the nation's past, present, and future; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Historical Commission, under the leadership of Secretary of State Tahesha Way, with its non-profit partner Crossroads of the American Revolution established RevolutionNJ to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism, and scholarship in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, RevolutionNJ will engage New Jerseyans in all 21 counties and 564 municipalities through its officially recognized programs, initiatives, and events over the next ten years; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and desirable that we commemorate the beginning of the Nation and the role New Jersey played over the past 250 years as well as its present and future role as part of the United States, with particular focus on the individuals, ideas, and events that shaped our Country, State, and County of Bergen, Borough of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, RevolutionNJ will consider the role New Jersey played during the American Revolution when it saw more battles and skirmishes than any other state and was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution; and

**WHEREAS**, RevolutionNJ will highlight the role New Jerseyans played beyond the battlefield during the American Revolution when people of diverse backgrounds contributed to the development of the State and the Nation in various ways and fought for the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

**WHEREAS**, preserving, studying, and enjoying state history strengthens communities and builds bonds between New Jersey residents as we work together toward the goals of justice and equality embedded in the United States Constitution;

New Jersey Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 305  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Crossroads of the American Revolution Assoc. Inc.  
101 Barrack Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough of Northvale hereby endorses RevolutionNJ and its mission to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism and scholarship in New Jersey.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that:

1. The Borough of Northvale commemorates the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the United States as an independent Nation.



2. The Borough of Northvale authorizes the appointment of a committee to develop a plan for this commemoration that will promote the maximum involvement of our residents, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, civic organizations, and institutions in the commemorations.

3. The Borough of Northvale further urges all its residents to reflect upon the significance of this event and the role that our State and its diverse people have played in the history and development of our Nation and to participate in this important commemoration, endeavoring to include the stories of all those whose lives are part of the history of what we now know as New Jersey, and understanding that the revolution continues today as we uphold the revolutionary ideals articulated in our founding documents.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-168**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO RETURN ESCROW FOR RAB LIGHTING 140,150,170 LUDLOW AVENUE, BLOCK 1102, LOTS 2,3,4**

**WHEREAS**, Rab Lighting owned 140, 150, 170 Ludlow Avenue, Block 1102, Lots 2, 3, 4; and

**WHEREAS**, Rab Lighting sold the properties in July of 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Rab Lighting has requested the return of their escrow totaling \$10,976.98; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no objections to the return of escrow from the Borough Engineer and Building Department and there are no outstanding bills.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to return the remainder of escrow fees to Rab Lighting Inc., 408 W 14<sup>th</sup> Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10014 in the amount of \$10,976.98 from escrow accounts 13011, 15011, 27009, 26011, 13015, and 23015.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-169**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR VETERANS DRIVE ROADWAY PROJECT PHASE II (NJDOT MA-23 FUNDED)**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has solicited bids for a contract award for the Veterans Drive Roadway Project Phase II; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale received eight bids as follows:

1. DLS Contracting, Inc. 36 Montesano Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004 \$289,340.55
2. American Asphalt & Trucking, LLC 818 Summer Avenue, Newark, NJ \$299,496.29
3. D & L Paving Contractors, Inc. 675 Franklin Avenue, Nutley, NJ 07110 \$323,140.48
4. Frank Macchione Construction 141 Central Avenue, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662 \$326,391.25



5. Smith-Sondy Asphalt Construction 150 Anderson Avenue, Wallington, NJ 07057 \$339,598.55
6. AJM Contractors, Inc. 300 Kuller Road, Clifton, NJ 07011 \$341,459.50
7. 4 Clean Up., Inc. PO Box 5098, North Bergen, NJ 07047 \$354,112.75
8. Zuccaro, Inc. 64 Commerce Street, Garfield NJ, 07026 \$519,200.50

**WHEREAS**, The Bids were submitted pursuant to a solicitation package prepared by Neglia Engineering, and

**WHEREAS**, Neglia Engineering reviewed the bids and determined that DLS Contracting is the lowest responsible bidder; and

**WHEREAS**, the lowest responsive bid is \$289,340.55 submitted by DLS Contracting; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Attorney and Neglia Engineering have reviewed the bid package submitted by DLS Contracting and recommend that the contract be awarded to DLS Contracting as the lowest responsive bid.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that, subject to the Borough’s Chief Financial Officer certifying the availability of funds, the Borough of Northvale hereby determines that the lowest responsive bid is that of DLS Contracting, Inc. and accepts its bid in the sum of \$289,340.55 and authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract for said purpose.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-170**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FISCAL YEAR 2024 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FIREFIGHTER GRANT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services has made grant funding available via the American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$75,000.00 to carry out a project to provide the Northvale Fire Department with proper fire Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE:**

1. Hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
2. Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Borough of Northvale and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles



are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-171**

**TITLE: PETITION THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO INSERT AN ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION – CHAPTER 159 – NEW JERSEY LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT AT VETERANS PARK**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough of Northvale in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year **2023** in the sum of **\$70,000** which is now available from New Jersey Recreation Improvement Grant at Veterans Park.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the like sum of **\$70,000** is hereby appropriated under the caption of **New Jersey Recreation Improvement Grant at Veterans Park**.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the above is the result of funds from **New Jersey Recreation Improvement Grant at Veterans Park** in the amount of **\$70,000**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESOLUTION #2023-172**

**TITLE: PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**WHEREAS**, claims have been submitted to the Borough of Northvale in the following amounts under various funds of the borough:

Current Fund Appropriations (2023)	\$194,340.96
Retro Check Approval 10/30/23	\$1,000.00
Current Fund Appropriations (2022)	
General Capital Fund	\$393,677.37
Grant Fund	\$196,469.39
Animal Trust	\$9.00
Police DEA Trust	
Retro Check Approval 10/13/23	\$34,945.50
Retro Check Approval 11/2/23	\$73,779.72
Escrow Trust	\$17,440.48
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	\$385.20
Summer Recreation Trust	\$1,350.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$803,672.40</b>
<b>TOTAL RETRO</b>	<b>\$109,725.22</b>



**WHEREAS**, above claims have been listed and summarized in the attached Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, council liaison, finance committee, and/or the chief financial officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the funds have been properly appropriated for such purposes and are available in the Borough of Northvale, and that the claims specified on the schedule attached hereto, following examination and approval by the finance committee, be paid and checks issued accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, claims have already been paid in the following amounts for the purposes specified below during the course of the year:

Payroll – Salaries & Wages	10-10-23	\$150,000
	10-31-23	\$135,000
Payroll – Salaries & Wages		
Payroll- Salaries & Wages		
Health Benefits	10-6-2023	\$58,030.07
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment- PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education		
Northern Valley Regional High School District		
Northvale Public Library		
Trust - Interfund		
DTC- Bond Principal	10-31-23	\$475,000
DTC- Bond Interest		\$46,118.75
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,777,546.44</b>

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$1,777,546.44** and ratified respectively.

**OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC FOR CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS ONLY**  
**Hovannes Bakalian, 164 Livingston Street** – will the RevolutionNJ committee just be the Council people or will it be open to the public and schools.

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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorro	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

\*\*\*\*\*



**ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the introduction of Ordinance #1075-2023. Motion made by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.**

**ORDINANCE #1075-2023**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE LIVINGSTON STREET STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (EAST SIDE OF LIVINGSTON STREET - FROM ROCKLAND AVENUE TO EIDNER WAY) IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$420,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** The Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (the "Borough"), is hereby authorized to undertake the Livingston Street Streetscape Improvements Project (east side of Livingston Street - from Rockland Avenue to Eidner Way) in, by and for the Borough. Said improvements shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

**Section 2.** The sum of \$420,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvements described in Section 1 hereof. Said sum so appropriated shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized and the State grant appropriated by this ordinance. No down payment is required pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c) because this ordinance involves a project to be funded by a State grant. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements and no part of the cost thereof shall be assessed against property specially benefitted.

**Section 3.** It is hereby determined and stated that (1) the making of such improvements (hereinafter referred to as "purpose") is not a current expense of the Borough, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligations of the Borough pursuant to the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law"), and (3) the estimated cost of said purpose is \$420,000, and (4) \$330,000 of said sum is to be provided by the State grant hereinafter appropriated to finance said purpose, and (5) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is \$90,000, and (6) the cost of said purpose, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of \$70,000, which is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of said purpose, including architect's fees, accounting, engineering and inspection costs, legal expenses and other expenses, including interest on such obligations to the extent permitted by Section 20 of the Local Bond Law.

**Section 4.** It is hereby determined and stated that the sum of \$330,000 received or to be received as a grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of such purpose.

**Section 5.** To finance said purpose, bonds of the Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$90,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law. All matters with respect to said bonds not determined by this ordinance shall be determined by resolutions to be hereafter adopted.

**Section 6.** To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of the Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$90,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law in anticipation of the issuance of said bonds. In the event that bonds are issued pursuant to this ordinance, the aggregate amount of notes hereby authorized to be issued shall be reduced



by an amount equal to the principal amount of the bonds so issued. If the aggregate amount of outstanding bonds and notes issued pursuant to this ordinance shall at any time exceed the sum first mentioned in this section, the moneys raised by the issuance of said bonds shall, to not less than the amount of such excess, be applied to the payment of such notes then outstanding.

**Section 7.** Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance, shall be payable not more than one year from its date, shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law, and may be renewed from time to time pursuant to and within limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. Each of said notes shall be signed by the Mayor and by a financial officer and shall be under the seal of the Borough and attested by the Borough Clerk or Deputy Borough Clerk. Said officers are hereby authorized to execute said notes and to issue said notes in such form as they may adopt in conformity with law. The power to determine any matters with respect to said notes not determined by this ordinance, and also the power to sell said notes, is hereby delegated to the Chief Financial Officer who is hereby authorized to sell said notes either at one time or from time to time in the manner provided by law.

**Section 8.** It is hereby determined and declared that the period of usefulness of said purpose, according to its reasonable life, is a period of ten years computed from the date of said bonds.

**Section 9.** It is hereby determined and stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk of the Borough, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of the Borough, as defined in Section 43 of the Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by \$90,000 and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

**Section 10.** Any funds received from private parties, the County of Bergen, the State of New Jersey or any of their agencies or any funds received from the United States of America or any of its agencies in aid of said purpose (other than the State grant hereinbefore appropriated, which shall be applied to the cost of said purpose but shall not be applied to the payment of outstanding bond anticipation notes and the reduction of the amount of bonds authorized), shall be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for said purpose shall be reduced accordingly.

**Section 11.** The Borough intends to issue bonds or notes to finance the cost of the improvements described in Section 1 of this bond ordinance. If the Borough incurs such costs prior to the issuance of such bonds or notes, the Borough hereby states its reasonable expectation to reimburse itself for such expenditures with the proceeds of such bonds or notes in the maximum principal amount of bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance.

**Section 12.** The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the obligations authorized by this ordinance. Said obligations shall be direct, unlimited and general obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Borough for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and notes, without limitation as to rate or amount.

**Section 13.** The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Borough Clerk and is available for public inspection.

**Section 14.** This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.



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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council President McMorrow** – the Police had 583 total events for the month of October. There were 85 motor vehicle stops, 65 selective traffic enforcement details, 18 motor vehicle crashes, 27 medical assistance calls, 2 residential burglaries, 1 commercial burglary, 2 shoplifting arrests, and 1 DWI arrest. All Officers completed mandated fall firearms requalification training. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, the department conducted active shooter training using the Borough Hall as the training site. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Detectives attended a Counter Terrorism Seminar hosted by the Bergen County Prosecutors office. October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Juvenile Officers attended a Juvenile Justice Reform Training Seminar. October 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Officer Sedano attended the 4 day New Jersey State Police Terminal Agency Coordinator Training along with Sgt. Devore. The Preschool has emailed Mr. Pinajian seeking answers to some questions in reference to the new preschool opening at the Northvale school. Preschool registration will begin in January. There are still openings in the 3-year-old class. The children will be participating in the tree lighting. Thank you to Northvale Fire Department for visiting the Preschool. Thank you to the Senior Center, Police Department, and Borough Hall for participating in their Halloween parade. Mayor McGuire’s costume was a hit. The Ambulance Corps still need emts. There were 19 calls for the month of October. The NVAC recertified the preschool staff in cpr and first aid. If anyone is interested in joining the ambulance corps, please email nvac226@gmail.com.

**Councilman Argiro** – congratulations to the candidates on winning. They will be good assets for the Borough. Fall soccer is winding down. Thank you to the coaches and parents. Playoffs should be starting soon. Indoor soccer registration closed today. There are new commissioners for basketball. Check out the Library interactive calendar on their website. The Library has an upcoming event at 86 and Vine in Norwood to meet authors.

**Councilman Mattessich** – the DPW has been working on repairing potholes, leaf pick up, sewer maintenance, catchbasins, maintaining fields at the parks and getting the snowplow equipment ready. Michelle Adoni at the Senior Center got married on Sunday. Congratulations to Michelle and her husband Matt. On November 27 the Seniors will be hosting a Christmas crochet craft fair at the center. Next week the Golden Age will be going to the Brownstone for a comedy night and dinner. The Golden Age Christmas party will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Madeleine’s. January is the time to join the Golden Age Club as members. They will be closing that membership down on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilman Hogan** – congratulations to Hovannes, Laura, and Roy. Building Department issued 27 permits for the month of October and collected \$21,221 in fees. The year to date is \$140,114 which is still behind but this was another consecutive good month. As for inspections, there were 14 building, 17 electrical, 8 plumbing, 7 fire, and 28 mechanical. The last Planning/Zoning Board meeting was held on August 16<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilman Sokoloski** – the Board of Health had a meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>. They have collected \$29,219 to date in fees. Our county health officer continues to do frequent inspections of all food establishments and monitors for follow up compliance of violations. Our county nurse gave a presentation. She consults with elderly folks both at home and at the Senior Center. It is getting harder and harder to get people to get vaccinations. The younger educated parents do not want to have their children vaccinated. Northern Valley Greenway is having a zoom meeting tomorrow. They are hoping to set up a community cleanup day of service along our CSX right of way but they are not allowed access to this space. We can find somewhere to have them clean up in the spring. We are doing quite well getting grants. We have been awarded \$447,000 for 2023. In the last two weeks we received a NJDOT grant for repaving and repairs to



Wildwood Road West and Scharer Avenue for \$186,939. We just received a grant from the US Dept. of Justice for a COPS grant of \$250,000 which goes to police hiring and salaries. Northvale has always received the largest share of community development grants for the senior center. HUD stopped this in 2016 because every year you cannot get a repeat grant. There is a new program for Public Service projects which could fund certain senior center programs. We need to connect Michelle, the Senior Center Director with the Grantswriter. I have enjoyed sitting with John Hogan all year, it has been fun and will miss you. Welcome to the two new council people. Happy to see younger people step up and get involved in this town. It is a privilege to work with all of you on the Council and look forward to a productive year in 2024.

**Mayor McGuire read Councilman Menafra's report** – the Fire Department held a fire prevention and safety presentation at Northvale Public School on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to Lt. Witkowski, Chief Smithson, and Deputy Chief Smithson for helping to organize and execute this event. Fire prevention had 28 inspections and 4 reinspections for the month of October. Fire Prevention supplied educational materials to the Fire Department for Fire Prevention week. Northvale Board of Education held a meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Principal McGrath presented a summary of the 2023 spring NJSLA assessment. Some key takeaways are in English Language Arts the overall percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards increased from 2022 for every grade. In Math, the overall percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards increased from 2022 for all grades except 5<sup>th</sup>. In Science unfortunately the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards decreased from 2022 for 5<sup>th</sup> grade, however, 8<sup>th</sup> grade increased from 15% to 37%. The next meeting is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Media Center. The Northern Valley Board of Education held a meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>. NVOT achieved AP Gold level. There were 61 National Merit Scholarship award winners. On October 19<sup>th</sup> there was a college fair at the Demarest campus. Funding was secured to reinstate several student clubs that had been previously cut. NJSLA testing for Math and ELA were administered only to 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Science was administered to 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. Marching band won the US Ludwig National Championship for the first time in the history of the school. The school is looking at repairs to the track, tennis courts and team room/locker room as well as repaving the rear parking lot. The next meeting is November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the NVOT Media Center.

**Mayor McGuire** – congratulations to Hovannes, Laura, and Roy. Thank you to Councilman Hogan for your service. You have been an excellent Councilman and I will also miss you. Veterans Day ceremony will take place on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in front of the Borough Hall. Refreshments will be in the Senior Center. The tree lighting ceremony will take place on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm. Paris Avenue in front of the Borough Hall will be closed. There will also be vendors. We have been doing very well with our grants. We just received the COPS grant. We are looking to get a resilient community grant from the DCA to help for flooding in communities. If we can show DPW equipment damaged from storm,s there is an opportunity to apply for this grant that would help us construct a DPW storage facility which will be around \$500,000-600,000. The deadline to apply is December 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to our Municipal Clerk, Fran Weston, for her work on election day. She arrived at the polling centers at 4:45 am to let the poll workers in, worked with them all day, traveled to Hackensack after polls closed and got home at 11:00 pm. She put in a very long day and did a fantastic job. Shout out to Chief Ostrow who ran and completed the New York City marathon this past Sunday which is a great accomplishment. Congratulations Chief!

#### **BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT**

**Mr. Ferraro** – had a meeting at the county this past week and spoke with the director of the shared service program. There are a number of shared services available to Northvale resulting in savings. He will be having a meeting with the director to go over some of the opportunities.

#### **BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT**

**Mr. Saad** – the 2023 Riverside Coop paving program is complete, pending final payment. Veterans Drive Phase II was awarded to DLS Contracting. O & R has a project in that area starting in the Spring of 2024. We will pave after that project is complete. Livingston Streetscape 2023 design is complete and submitted. Once approved, we will be ready to go out for bid. Senior Center ADA Doors precon meeting was held. This project is slated for early December.



**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor McGuire announced the Council will be going into closed session for matters relating to personnel. He asked for a motion and second. Motion was made by Councilman Hogan, seconded by Council President McMorrow. Mayor McGuire stated there may be action taken.**

*Action may  not  be taken upon return to open session.*

**RESOLUTION #2023-173**

**TITLE: TO PROVIDE FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT N.J.S.A 10:4-12**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Northvale is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6, et seq; and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Council of the Borough of Northvale to discuss in session not open to the public certain matter relating to an item or items authorized by NJSA 10:4-12b, as listed below:

- 1. Matters required by law to be confidential
- 2. Matters where the release of information would impair the right to receive funds.
- 3. Matters involving individual privacy
- 4. Matters relating to collective bargaining
- 5. Matters relating to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property or the investment of public funds.
- 6. Matters relating to public safety and property.
- 7. Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and attorney client privilege.
- 8. Matters relating to the employment relationship – Personnel
- 9. Matters relating to the potential imposition of a penalty.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Northvale that immediately after the adoption of this resolution the Council shall enter into closed session.

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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**The Mayor and Council proceeded into Closed session at 8:10 PM.**

**The Mayor and Council return to open session at 8:38 PM with no action to be taken. Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilman Hogan to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. All were in favor to adjourn.**



*Joseph E. McGuire*  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

*Frances M. Weston*

Frances M. Weston  
Municipal Clerk

Approved: December 13, 2023

