



MINUTES
Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Wednesday, December 13, 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. Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 remembering our troops here and abroad and for peace in the world, especially the Middle East and Europe.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

Mayor McGuire	Present	Council President McMorrow	Present
Councilman Argiro	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilman Hogan	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

Other Officials Present:

Kenneth Ralph, Borough Attorney
 Scott Loverich, Borough Engineer
 Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of November 8, 2023 AND Closed Session of November 8, 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	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of November 21, 2023. Motion was made by Councilman Menafr, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

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

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Absent	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 1, 2023. Motion was made by Councilwoman McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Menafr.



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

Councilman Argiro	Abstain	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Absent	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. Valley Health Systems Agreement
CDL Program for 2024
(Resolution #2023-177)
2. Borough of Paramus – Shared Service Agreement For 2024
Maintenance and Repair of Vehicles
(Resolution #2023-184)

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #2023-176 through 2023-186. Motion was made by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

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”

RESOLUTION #2023-176

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2022 AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2022 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey is authorized to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, as per R. S. 52:27BB-34; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled:

- General Comments
- Recommendations

and



WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled:

General Comments
Recommendations

as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, as per the regulations of the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 - to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 - “A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Borough of Northvale hereby states that it has complied with the promulgation of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey dated July 30, 1968 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

RESOLUTION #2023-177

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR MCGUIRE TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. TO IMPLEMENT THE CDL PROGRAM FOR 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor McGuire is hereby authorized to sign the above mentioned agreement.

RESOLUTION #2023-178

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL PART OF 2023 TAX FOR TAX EXEMPT BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE PROPERTY - 153-A SCHARER AVENUE – BLOCK 1001, LOT 10

WHEREAS, The Borough of Northvale purchased certain property within the Borough known as Block 1001 Lot 10, more commonly known as 153-A Scharer Avenue; and

WHEREAS, a deed was delivered on September 21, 2023, signifying conveyance of the said property from JoAnn Vossler to the Borough of Northvale; and



WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Northvale now seeks to remove the said property from the tax rolls and forgive the balance of tax due for 2023, in the amount of \$208.08.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the Borough Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to take such action as may be necessary to remove the above mentioned property from the tax rolls of the Borough of Northvale pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.6 and to cancel the balance of tax due for 2023, effective with the delivery of the Deed on September 21, 2023, with no further tax due and owing from the seller, JoAnn Vossler from that day on, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector of the Borough of Northvale is also authorized to remove Preliminary 2024 Tax in the amount of \$137.64.

RESOLUTION #2023-179

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO ISSUE A REFUND DUE TO THE OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that a warrant be drawn as indicated below in the designated amount representing a duplicate tax payment as follows:

Block/Lot	Name /Address	Date Paid	Amount
116/3	CoreLogic Tax Service Refunds Department P.O. Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019 Property: 438 Briarwood Lane	11/9/2023	\$3,220.44

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Service that made the payment has requested that the overpayment be refunded.

RESOLUTION #2023-180

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO ISSUE A REFUND OF TAX DEDUCTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, that a warrant be drawn to the individual listed below in the amount indicated, representing refund of tax deduction allowed for 2023.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
Mary C. Morrison	603/6/C2211	\$250.00	Widow of Veteran Deduction



RESOLUTION #2023-181

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO ISSUE A REFUND DUE TO THE OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that a warrant be drawn as indicated below in the designated amount representing a duplicate tax payment as follows:

Block/Lot	Name /Address	Date Paid	Amount
911/9	Blueland title Agency, Inc. 460 Bergen Boulevard, Suite 204 Palisades Park, NJ 07650 Property: 186 Railroad Avenue	10/23/2023	\$2,941.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Blueland Title Agency, Inc. that made the payment has requested that the overpayment be refunded.

RESOLUTION #2023-182

TITLE: RESOLUTION CANCELLING TAX OVERPAYMENTS AND DELINQUENT AMOUNTS LESS THAN \$10.00

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 allows for the cancellation of property tax delinquent amounts in the amounts of less than \$10.00; and

WHEREAS, the governing body may authorize the Tax Collector to process, without further action on their part, any cancellation of property tax overpayments or delinquencies of less than \$10.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Tax Collector to cancel said tax amounts as listed below.

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Delinquent Amount</u>
501/18.01	Great Hope Development	411 Clinton Avenue	\$ 0.09
608/2	PFD Investco LLC	Industrial Parkway	\$ 0.02
709/11.01	Rinaldi, Matther & Melissa	533 Grace Avenue	\$ 0.05
911/1	Heneghan, John & Elizabeth	162 Paris Avenue	\$ 0.01
1010/12	Lanche, Rouel & Bruneau, Kisha	159 Walnut Street	\$ -0.03

RESOLUTION #2023-183

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING BINGO RAFFLE LICENSE BA250 FOR NORTHERN VALLEY OLD TAPPAN PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ORGANIZATION – POCKETBOOK BINGO – JANUARY 26, 2024

NAME: Northern Valley Old Tappan Parent Teacher Student Organization



ADDRESS: 100 Central Ave., Old Tappan, NJ
 LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 199 Walnut Street, Northvale, NJ
 HOURS: 6:30 PM – 10:00 PM
 DATE OF RAFFLE: January 26, 2024
 ID #: 366-5-38539
 RAFFLE LICENSE #: BA #250

RESOLUTION #2023-184

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR MCGUIRE TO SIGN SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS FOR VEHICLE REPAIR/MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the Uniformed Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., allows any municipality or county to enter into a contract with any other municipality or county for the joint provision of any services within their joint jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale and the Borough of Paramus seek to enter into a Shared Services Agreement wherein the Borough of Paramus will provide maintenance and repair to Borough of Northvale vehicles which are directed to the Borough of Paramus by the Borough of Northvale effective January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds will be available through the various departments current budget numbers under the heading of Vehicle Maintenance and Repair; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale hereby agree to the terms of the contract and the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council authorize Mayor Joseph McGuire to execute said agreement between the Borough of Northvale and the Borough of Paramus for Vehicle Maintenance and Repair by the Borough of Paramus.

RESOLUTION #2023-185

TITLE: TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE CURRENT FUND BUDGET FOR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,500

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.40:4-49 permits the transfer of appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year from accounts showing unexpended balances to accounts in which commitments may exceed the original budgeted appropriations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached transfers are hereby authorized in the total amount of \$38,500.

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	ACCOUNT #	FROM	TO
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Streets and Roads	O/E	03-01-26-290-206	11,000.00	
Streets and Roads	O/E	03-01-26-290-208	7,500.00	
Sewer System	O/E	03-01-26-311-200	3,000.00	
Sewer Norwood	O/E	03-01-26-315-201	7,500.00	
Sewerage-BCIA	O/E	03-01-31-455-201	1,500.00	
Municipal Court Exp	O/E	03-01-43-490-200	1,500.00	
Tax Collection O/E	O/E	03-01-20-145-202	1,500.00	
Tax Assessment	O/E	03-01-20-150-203	2,500.00	
Planning Board	O/E	03-01-21-180-204	2,500.00	
Administration	O/E	03-01-20-100-203		20,000.00
Administration	O/E	03-01-20-100-203		9,000.00
Legal	O/E	03-01-20-155-202		2,500.00
Code Compliance	O/E	03-01-22-196-205		500.00
Building and Grounds	O/E	03-01-26-310-204		3,500.00
Health Department	O/E	03-01-27-330-203		3,000.00
				\$38,500.00 38,500.00

RESOLUTION #2023-186

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)	\$183,703.63
Current Fund Appropriations (2022)	
General Capital Fund	\$53,896.54
Grant Fund	\$ 13,938.71
Animal Trust	
Police DEA Trust	\$4,924.62
Escrow Trust	
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	\$12,675.38
Summer Recreation Trust	
TOTAL	\$269,138.88

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		
Payroll – Salaries & Wages	11-10-23	\$165,000
Payroll- Salaries & Wages	11-27-23	\$165,000
Health Benefits		
County Taxes	11-15-23	\$641,217.88
	11-28-23	\$29,551.90
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education		
Northern Valley Regional High School District		
Northvale Public Library		
Trust - Interfund		
DTC- Bond Principal		
DTC- Bond Interest		
TOTAL		\$1,269,908.66

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$1,269,908.66** and ratified respectively.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on consent agenda 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 Argiro	Yes	Councilman Mattessich	Yes
Councilman Hogan	Absent	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorro	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

ORDINANCE – 2nd READING

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the second reading of Ordinance #1075-2023. Motion was made by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

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 BOND



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 opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Ordinance #1075-2023

Hovannes Bakalian, 164 Livingston Street - asked if both sides of the street will be done including the curbs. Mr. Loverich answered that it will be the eastern side of Livingston Street.

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

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

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President McMorrow – thank you to the Preschool, Police, and Ambulance Corps for their participation in the tree lighting. The 2024-2025 preschool registration will open next week. Police had 561 events in the month of November. There were 105 traffic stops, 91 selective traffic enforcement details, 19 mother vehicle crashes, and 48 medical assist calls. The installation of the Hogan Park surveillance cameras will begin this week. The Ambulance Corps had 21 calls for the month of November. They are in desperate need of volunteers.



Councilman Argiro – indoor soccer and basketball will be starting very soon. There is a meeting tonight at the Library. Check out the Library website for upcoming events.

Councilman Menafr – shout out to the Fire Department for their participation in the Northvale and St. Anthony tree lightings. Fire Department had 29 calls for the month of November. Fire Prevention had 24 inspections and 4 reinspections for the month of November. Municipal Alliance submitted a budget modification to the County and are waiting for their reply. If approved, it would provide grant funding for two programs: Too Smart To Start and Don't Get Beeped In which are related to alcohol and substance abuse and Get Connected, a three session program targeted for seniors at the Senior Center. Northvale Board of Education had a meeting on November 21st. The Annex is complete and furniture has been ordered and the Preschool should be ready to start for the 2024/2025 school year. Registration for the Preschool is open. Basketball is underway. The PTO Holiday breakfast was held on December 9th. The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for December 14th at 6:30 in the Media Center. The Northern Valley Board of Education had two meetings since our last council meeting. The Superintendent mentioned there were 55 commended students and one semi finalist for the national merit scholarship. There was a college counseling presentation for the students. There was a special education presentation. The NVOT marching band won the group 3 state championship. Next meeting is in January with a date to be determined.

Councilman Mattessich – the DPW concluded leaf pick up, still picking up brush, did prep work for the tree lighting, prepping the trucks for snow plowing. There was a sewer issue on Veterans Drive. Bruce Hammer gave a Pearl Harbor presentation on December 7th at the Senior Center. On December 14th there will be an Alliance For Senior Services presentation. The Senior Center Christmas luncheon will be held on December 21st. Golden Age Christmas party is happening now. Membership will close February 8th.

Councilman Sokolowski – most committees have been inactive. The Board of Health Reorganization meeting is scheduled for January 9th. Northern Valley Greenway meeting was cancelled. Grant applications still pending \$2,409,066. Grant application for a new DPW building for approximately \$541,920 will be submitted by December 15th. We have been awarded \$890,486 in 2023. Met with Scott, Mayor McGuire, and the architect to review the grant received for \$65,000 for upgrades and ADA improvements to Senior Center bathrooms. This work will be for the Spring.

Mayor McGuire – the Reorganization meeting will be January 3, 2024 at 6:30 pm. Thank you to everyone that helped with the tree lighting – Iris Fallon, Kevin Trainor, DPW, Police, Fire, and Ambulance. It was a really great effort by everyone. The camera installation will begin at Hogan Park very shortly. Our 1st annual light decorating contest for the houses in Northvale have a good amount of people signed up. The deadline is Friday. Judging will take place next week. Some good news – we have been accepting leaves from Westwood every year for the past few years through shared service agreement. In the past we received 3100 cubic yards of leaves. They are sending us compressed leaves. It is about 2.65 times higher than what they are sending us. This year we will be receiving about 8,000 cubic yards of leaves from them which is much higher than we anticipated. In our budget this year we had anticipated about \$30,000-\$34,000. We should be receiving about \$90,000. This morning I attended a film ready New Jersey meeting at Bergen County headquarters. New Jersey film industry is growing considerably. Companies are leaving southern California and looking for alternatives. There is a program we will pursue in 2024 to be film ready. You have to be film ready certified, pass an ordinance for production companies when they come here, permit fees, database of locations available. They are looking for locations to film. A film liaison person will be designated. This will generate revenue. The recycling calendars will be going out next week or so. The Q4 newsletter is being mailed next week. The indoor pickleball opening is Saturday on Legrand Avenue, there are only 3 in Bergen County. An indoor basketball shooting zone also opened on Legrand Avenue. A hockey training facility is looking to build next to the old Boston Market.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Ralph - nothing to report at this time.



BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Loverich – had the Veterans Drive precon meeting on December 11th. Work should begin in the spring/summer after O&R finishes their project. Livingston Street Streetscape – met with residents along impacted area. Two residents were satisfied with the project. Received approval from Bergen County Soil Conservation and Bergen Count Engineering had no comments on the project. Should be going out to bid in early January with construction beginning in early Spring. The Senior Center ADA doors will be delivered by January 4th and will mobilize on January 8th to begin installation. The county is good with the schedule. Neglia will be submitting a proposal in January for the Senior Center ADA bathrooms.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Dennis Pothos – thanked the Mayor and Council, especially the Mayor, for honoring the 5th and 6th grade football championship team on Monday night and presenting each player with a certificate.

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 Sokoloski, seconded by Council President McMorrow. Mayor McGuire stated there may be action taken.

Action may not be taken upon return to open session.

RESOLUTION #2023-187

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	Absent	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Council President McMorrow	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

The Mayor and Council proceeded into Closed session at 7:34 PM.



The Mayor and Council returned to open session at 8:05 PM with no action to be taken. Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Councilman Menafra, seconded by Councilman Sokoloski to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM. All were in favor to adjourn.

Joseph E. McGuire

Mayor

ATTEST:

Frances M. Weston

Frances M. Weston
Municipal Clerk

Approved: December 27, 2023

