



MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Monday, June 17, 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.

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 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. Mayor McGuire also asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence remembering Mayor Paul Hoelscher of Harrington Park who passed away last week.

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call:

Mayor McGuire	Present	Councilwoman McMorrow	Present
Councilman Bakalian	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilwoman Fernandez	Present	Councilman Menafra	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

Other Officials Present:

John Bruno, Borough Attorney
Joseph Luppino, Chief Financial Officer
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

Mayor McGuire suspended the regular order of business for the public hearing of the 2024 Budget. Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public.

Kenneth Cho, 423 Wildwood Road – stated the budget on the website is a draft. Mr. Luppino replied that the website has the budget that was introduced on May 16th. There is an amendment that will be voted on tonight. Once approved, that version will be posted on the website.

There being no other questions from the public, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Riverside Cooperative 2024 Road Paving Program
Northvale Portion
(Resolution #2024-204)

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2024-102. Motion was made by Councilwoman Fernandez, seconded by Council President McMorrow. Mr. Luppino explained this amendment does not change the budget. He stated that the American Recovery grant was listed twice in the budget. In the original budget it was listed under grant portion but was already reflected in police salaries and wages. The state reviewed the budget and advised to make this amendment. This will not change the tax levy. Mr. Luppino informed the Council that after this resolution is approved, it has to be advertised for 3 days and then we can have a special meeting to approve the amendment and adopt the budget.



RESOLUTION #2024-102

TITLE: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Northvale Municipal budget for the year 2024 was approved on the 16th day of May, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2024 be made:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
3. Miscellaneous Revenue-Section F: Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:		
American Recovery Plan Grant	43,701.97	0
Total Section F: Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public & Private Revenues	\$687,072.45	\$643,370.48
4. Total Miscellaneous Revenue	\$2,607,734.45	\$2,564,032.48
5. Subtotal General Revenues	\$3,462,734.45	\$3,419,032.48
6a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$8,018,223.17	\$8,018,223.17
7. Total Generals Revenue	\$11,856,080.62	\$11,812,378.65
8. (a) Operations – Within “CAPS”		
Police Department		
Salaries and Wages	\$2,104,080	\$2,106,299
American Rescue Plan-Police Department		
Salaries and Wages	45,920	43,701
Total Operations including Contingent-within-CAPS	\$7,048,376.00	\$7,048,376.00
Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Within CAPS	\$8,217,864.09	\$8,217,864.00
8. Operations – Excluded from CAPS		
Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues		
American Recovery Plan Grant	43,701.97	0
Total Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenue	\$687,072.45	\$643,370.48
Total General Appropriations	\$11,856,080.62	\$11,812,378.65

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafrá	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes



Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2024-103. Motion was made by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

RESOLUTION #2024-103

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS DUE AUGUST 1, 2024 IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, C.72

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale’s 2024 Municipal Budget has not been adopted and the County of Bergen is unable to certify the Borough’s current 2024 tax rate; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector will be unable to mail the Borough’s 2024 tax bills on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, the Northvale Tax Collector in consultation with the Northvale Chief Financial Officer has computed an estimated tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, and they have both signed a certification summarizing the tax levies for the previous year, the tax rates and the estimated tax levies for the 2024 calendar year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey on this 17th day of June, 2024 as follows:

1. The Borough of Northvale Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and issue estimated tax bills for the Borough for the third installment of 2024 taxes. The Tax Collector shall proceed and take such actions as are permitted and required by L. 1994, c.72 (N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 and 54.4-66.3).
2. The estimated calendar year tax levy for 2024 is hereby calculated at \$28,446,831.67. The maximum amount that the Borough may utilize in the preparation of the 2024 estimated tax bills is 105% of the 2023 calendar year tax levy or \$28,665,247.75.
3. In accordance with New Jersey Statutes, the third installment of 2024 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10th or the twenty-fifth calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills were mailed. The estimated tax bills shall contain a notice specifying the date on which interest may begin to accrue.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Resolution #2024-103. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for approval of Resolution #2024-104. Motion was made by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

RESOLUTION #2024-104

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR THE 2024 RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, Northvale, acting as lead agency, administered the bid process for the 2024 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Project (the “Project”) on behalf of the Boroughs of Alpine, Demarest, Dumont, Englewood Cliffs, Harrington Park, Hillsdale, Montvale, New Milford, Northvale, and Tenafly, all municipalities located within the County of Bergen; and



WHEREAS, on March 26, 2024 sealed bids for the Project were received, opened and read aloud and the Project was subsequently awarded to DLS Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$4,174,668.39; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale’s portion of the Project is \$190,313.48; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough to pay its portion of the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby approve the payment of \$190,313.48 for the Project.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Resolution #2024-104. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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

ORDINANCE – 1ST Reading

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the 1st Reading of Ordinance #1090-2024. Motion made by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

ORDINANCE #1090-2024

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO HOGAN PARK IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$310,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A COUNTY GRANT, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, 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, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") is hereby authorized to undertake various improvements to Hogan Park in, by and for the Borough consisting of (A) replacement of fencing at Fields 1 and 2 and (B) replacement of dugouts at Field 2. Said improvements shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

Section 2. The sum of \$310,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvements described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized, and the down payment and the County grant appropriated, by this ordinance. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements and no part of the cost thereof shall be assessed against property specially benefited.



Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) said purpose is not a current expense of said Borough, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligations of said 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 total estimated cost of said purpose is \$310,000, and (4) \$80,000 of said sum is to be provided by the County grant hereinafter appropriated, and (5) \$30,000 of said sum is to be provided by the down payment hereinafter appropriated to finance said purpose, and (6) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is \$200,000, and (7) the cost of such purpose, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of \$34,070 which is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of such 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 \$80,000 received or to be received as a grant from the County of Bergen Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of such purpose.

Section 5. It is hereby determined and stated that the sum of \$30,000 in the Borough's Recreation Trust Fund is now available to serve as the down payment on said purpose. The sum of \$30,000 is hereby appropriated from such moneys to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 6. To finance said purpose, bonds of said Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$200,000 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 7. To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of said Borough of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$200,000 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 8. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance and 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 bond anticipation notes shall be signed by the Mayor and by a financial officer and shall be under the seal of said Borough and attested by the Borough Clerk or Deputy Borough Clerk. Said officers are hereby authorized to execute 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 9. It is hereby determined and declared that the period of usefulness of said purpose, according to its reasonable life, is a period of fifteen years computed from the date of said bonds.

Section 10. 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 said Borough, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of said Borough, as defined in Section 43 of the Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by \$200,000 and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

Section 11. 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 such purpose (other than the County grant hereinbefore appropriated which shall be applied to the cost of such 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 such purpose, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for such purpose shall be reduced accordingly.

Section 12. 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 13. The Borough intends to issue the 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 the 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 14. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the 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 15. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication thereof after final passage.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Motion was made by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Council President McMorrow. All were in favor to adjourn the meeting.



Joseph E. McGuire
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frances M. Weston

Frances M. Weston
Municipal Clerk

Approved: July 10, 2024