



**MINUTES**  
**Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council**  
**Wednesday, December 11, 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](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 two official newspapers of the Borough, filed with the Municipal Clerk, and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been fulfilled. Please note the fire exits as required by law at public meetings.”*

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor McGuire asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag. He also asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for the first responders and troops protecting our nation.

**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:**

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 13, 2024. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

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

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Abstain
Councilman Mattessich	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. Shared Service Agreement-Paramus  
Vehicle Repair/Maintenance for 2025  
(Resolution #2024-154)



2. KeyTech Laboratories Agreement  
Bituminous Concrete Core Sampling and Testing  
Wildwood Road and Scharer Avenue  
(Resolution #2024-155)
3. Valley Health Systems Testing Agreement for 2025  
(Resolution #2024-156)
4. Neglia Group – Affordable Housing Agreement  
Phase One  
(Resolution #2024-162)
5. HM Company – Change Order  
Senior Center ADA Bathrooms  
(Resolution #2024-163)
6. New Jersey Courts Approval Temporary Judge  
(Resolution #2024-167)
7. Interstate Waste Services Grass Barrel Pick Up  
(Resolution #2024-168)

**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 #2024-149 through 2024-170. Motion was moved by Councilman Menafrá, seconded by Councilwoman Fernandez.**

**RESOLUTION #2024-149**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2023 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 2023 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.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2024-150**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BODY ENDORSING THE BERGEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATION FOR NORTHVALE FIREHOUSE ADA RESTROOM UPGRADES**

**WHEREAS**, a Bergen County Community Development Block Grant totaling \$150,000.00 has been proposed by the Borough of Northvale for the Northvale Firehouse ADA Restroom Improvements project; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the State Interlocal Services Act, Community Development funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality is intended solely to expedite expenditure of the aforesaid Community Development application.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Northvale Mayor and Council hereby confirms endorsement of the aforesaid project; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Division of Community Development (Robert G. Esposito, Director; Bergen County Division of Community Development; One Bergen County Plaza, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor; Hackensack. 07601) so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2024-151**

**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
403/3	CoreLogic Tax Service Refunds Department P.O. Box 9202 Coppell, Texas 75019 Property – 602 Gladys Court	11/12/2024	\$3,702.75

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Freedom Mortgage has indicated that they would prefer to have a refund sent to CoreLogic since they paid the taxes and CoreLogic is the tax service they use.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-152**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION REFUNDING THE OVERPAYMENT CAUSED BY ALLOWING VETERAN DEDUCTIONS**

**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 refunds of tax deductions allowed for 2023 and 2024.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
David Shirey	807/13	500.00	Veteran Deduction

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**RESOLUTION #2024-153**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL 2024 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER FINAL AND 2025 PRELIMINARY TAX DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS**

**WHEREAS**, Block 410 Lot 22, 410 Crest Drive was purchased by Albert Chu, a Totally Disabled Veteran on August 30, 2024, who has been granted Tax Exempt Status according to New Jersey statute 54:4-3.30 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and 2025 Preliminary taxes are to be canceled because of Mr. Chu’s status as a Totally Disabled Veteran.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the amount of \$3,172.26 for the 2024 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Tax and \$6,165.45 for 2025 Preliminary Tax on Block 410 lot 22, 410 Crest Drive.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-154**

**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, 2025 and terminating December 31, 2025; 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.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2024-155**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH KEYTECH LABORATORIES FOR BITUMINOUS CONCRETE CORE SAMPLING AND TESTING FOR THE WILDWOOD ROAD AND SCHARER AVENUE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale is engaged in a road improvement program project on Wildwood Road and Scharer Avenue, for which the Borough has received a grant from the Department of Transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOT requires testing and sampling of bituminous concrete associated with this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has received a proposal from KeyTech Laboratories of Keyport, New Jersey for this testing and sampling in the sum of \$2,310.00; and

**WHEREAS**, KeyTech is properly accredited to perform these services.

**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 Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with KeyTech as set forth above.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2024-156**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR MCGUIRE TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING PROGRAMS FOR 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale is in need of a provider for alcohol and drug testing services to support the Borough's workplace alcohol and drug testing programs and policies; and

**WHEREAS**, Valley Health System, Inc, ("Valley") a NJ non-profit organization, provides these services; and

**WHEREAS**, Valley has submitted a proposal attached hereto which the Borough finds fair and reasonable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough wishes to enter into this non fair and open agreement without the necessity of competitive bidding, which is not required for this Agreement.

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



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**RESOLUTION #2024-157**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING BINGO RAFFLE LICENSE #BA261 FOR NORTHERN VALLEY OLD TAPPAN PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ORGANIZATION-POCKETBOOK BINGO-JANUARY 24, 2025**

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 24, 2025  
ID #: 366-5-38539  
RAFFLE LICENSE #: BA #261

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**RESOLUTION #2024-158**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #262 FOR NORTHERN VALLEY OLD TAPPAN PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ORGANIZATION-50/50 RAFFLE-JANUARY 24, 2025**

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 24, 2025  
ID #: 366-5-38539  
RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #262

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**RESOLUTION #2024-159**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #263 FOR NORTHVALE PTO – 50/50 RAFFLE – FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

NAME: Northvale PTO  
ADDRESS: 441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ  
LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ  
HOURS: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM



DATE OF RAFFLE: February 28, 2025

ID #: 353-5-37377

RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #263

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**RESOLUTION #2024-160**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #264 FOR NORTHVALE PTO – PARKING SPOT – JANUARY 31, 2025 AND MARCH 31, 2025**

NAME: Northvale PTO

ADDRESS: 441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ

HOURS: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

DATE OF RAFFLE: January 31, 2025, March 31, 2025

ID #: 353-5-37377

RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #264

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**RESOLUTION #2024-161**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF FRANCES WESTON AS MUNICIPAL CLERK**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133 requires every municipality to appoint a Municipal Clerk for a term of three years, and Frances Weston was appointed as Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Northvale on December 28, 2021 for a three-year term; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133.7 provides that upon reappointment following the completion of an initial three year term, a Municipal Clerk shall acquire tenure.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale hereby reappoint Frances Weston as Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Northvale, effective December 28, 2024, pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:9-133.7 and shall acquire tenure in office.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-162**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR MCGUIRE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NEGLIA GROUP FOR SERVICES RELATING TO THE BOROUGH’S AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has put forth the Borough’s Fourth Round of Affordable Housing obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has until January 31, 2025 to adopt a resolution either agreeing with the DCA’s requirements or to present the Borough’s assessment as to what the Borough’s obligation should be; and



**WHEREAS**, in order to present the Borough’s assessment, the Borough requires, among other things, an analysis of such factors as vacant land and building applications; and

**WHEREAS**, Neglia Group has submitted a proposal to the Borough for these services; and

**WHEREAS**, at this time, the Borough only needs to engage Neglia Group for Phase One of its proposal in the sum of \$30,225.00; for these services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough may use a portion of its Affordable Housing Trust Fund for this purpose.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor McGuire is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Neglia Group for Phase One of its proposal.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-163**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CHANGE ORDER FOR THE NORTHVALE SENIOR CENTER ADA BATHROOMS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has a contract with HM Company LLC for the Northvale Senior Center ADA bathrooms in the sum of \$72,900; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has received a request for a change order in the amount of \$694.13 in order to furnish and install shutoffs at the water supply lines, which would bring the total contract to \$73,594.13; and

**WHEREAS**, this change was not part of the original contract and has been reviewed and approved by Arcari + Iovino Architects, who are overseeing this project.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough hereby authorizes the execution of the aforesaid change order.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-164**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO RETURN PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE BOND FOR RIO VISTA MANAGEMENT – 145 RIO VISTA LANE**

**WHEREAS**, Rio Vista Management is the Developer of various block and lots in the Borough of Northvale and has applied before the Board of Adjustment for the various projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Rio Vista Management has posted a Performance Guarantee for 145 Rio Vista Lane; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no objections to the return of these fees from the Planning/Zoning Attorney or Engineer and there are no outstanding bills.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to return the remainder of fees to Rio Vista Management:

Performance Guarantee                      \$38,330.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Engineer recommends that the Borough collect a Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$8,665.50 per Maser Engineering letter dated November 19, 2020.





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**RESOLUTION #2024-165**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT A REASSESSMENT OF ALL PROPERTY IN THE MUNICIPALITY FOR THE YEAR 2026**

**WHEREAS**, there exists in the Borough of Northvale a need for the services of a professional service to plan and implement a reassessment of all property in the municipality for the tax year 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, such professional service involves qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A.:11-5(1) (a) of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough of Northvale that said aforementioned professional should be appointed under a fair and open process, pursuant to the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et. seq (‘‘Pay to Play Law’’).

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Northvale as follows:

1. For the reasons above stated, the Municipal Clerk is authorized to issue Requests for Qualifications (‘‘RFPs’’) for a professional service to plan and implement a reassessment of all property in the municipality for the tax year 2026 for the Borough of Northvale, notice of which shall be publicly advertised as required.
2. Responses to such RFPs must be submitted to the Municipal Clerk at the Municipal Building, 116 Paris Avenue, Northvale, New Jersey 07647.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-166**

**TITLE: RESOLUTOIN APPROVING THE PERSON-TO-PERSON LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FROM MADELEINE’S PETIT PARIS, INC. TO MYKOS RESTAURANT LLC-LICENSE NUMBER 0240-33-002-003**

**WHEREAS**, an application has been filed for a Person-to-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License #0240-33-002-003, heretofore issued to Madeleine’s Petit Paris, Inc. for premises located at 416 Tappan Road, Northvale, New Jersey 07647; and

**WHEREAS**, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has disclosed, and the issuing authority reviewed, the source of all funds used in the purchase of the license and the licensed business and all additional financing obtained in connection with the business.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale do hereby approve, effective December 11, 2024, the transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License to Mykos Restaurant LLC and does hereby direct the Municipal Clerk to endorse the license certificate to the new ownership as follows:

‘‘This license, subject to all its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred to Mykos Restaurant LLC effective December 11, 2024.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-167**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, by notice dated December 5, 2024, the Borough has received authorization to appoint by resolution one temporary Judge for the Northvale Municipal Court for a period not to exceed one (1) year; and

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

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

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

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**RESOLUTION #2024-168**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH INTERSTATE WASTE SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTION OF VEGETATIVE WASTE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has a need to dispose of vegetative waste that is collected in the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Interstate Waste Services (“Interstate”) has the ability to provide the necessary service to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough wishes to engage the service with Interstate, pursuant to the terms of the contract, which the Borough deems fair and reasonable;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough hereby authorizes the execution of the Agreement with Interstate.

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**RESOLUTION #2024-169**

**TITLE: TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE CURRENT FUND BUDGET FOR 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,231**

**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 following transfers are hereby authorized in the total amount of \$25,231.

<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Administration: Office Operations	OE	4-01-20-100-200		\$5,000
Planning Bd Salaries	SW	4-01-21-180-100		130
Fire House: Rental	OE	4-01-25-256-201		1
Senior Bus Trips	OE	4-01-28-370-201		5,300
Park & Playgrounds Salaries	SW	4-01-28-375-101		5,800
Electricity	OE	4-01-31-430-201		6,000
Tax Collection Salaries	SW	4-01-20-145-101		1,000
Water	OE	4-01-31-445-201		2,000
Financial Admin Salaries	SW	4-01-20-130-101	\$2,500	
Street Lighting	OE	4-01-31-435-201	2,000	
Natural Gas	OE	4-01-31-446-201	3,500	
Vehicle Fuel Gasoline	OE	4-01-31-460-201	2,000	
Police Salaries	OE	4-01-25-240-100	15,231	
			<u>\$25,231</u>	<u>\$25,231</u>

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**RESOLUTION #2024-170**

**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 (2024)	\$204,733.85
Current Fund Appropriations (2023)	-
General Capital Fund	5,021.77
Grant Fund	49,611.25
Animal Trust	
Police DEA Trust	30,032.20
Escrow Trust	3,347.01
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	3,3268.54
Summer Recreation Trust	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$296,014.62</b>
Retro Current Fund (2024)	<b>0</b>
	<b>\$296,014.62</b>

**WHEREAS**, above claims have been listed and summarized in the Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, 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, 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:

Northern Valley Regional High School		
Payroll – Salaries & Wages	11/8/2024	\$178,244.34
Payroll- Salaries & Wages	11/22/2024	\$272,508.78
Health Benefits	11/04/24	63,609.45
County Taxes	11/15/2024	655,732.90
	11/15/2024	30,223.41
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education Northern Valley Regional High School District		
Northvale Public Library		
Capital - Interfund		
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter	11/1/2024	500,000
DTC- Bond Interest		41,368.78
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,037,702.30</b>

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$2,037,702.30** and ratified respectively.

**ON THE QUESTION** – Councilman Bakalian asked if we have to do the shared service agreement with Paramus or can we use local shops for vehicle repair.

**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:**

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

Mayor McGuire congratulated Clerk Weston on achieving tenure.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss at this time.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council President McMorrow** – Police Department responded to 707 calls during the month of November – 116 selective traffic enforcement details, 112 traffic stops, 25 burglar alarms, and 17 motor vehicle crashes. There was one arrest of a 49 year old from Paterson of one count of



possession of drug paraphernalia. The Preschoolers and their families enjoyed participating in the tree lighting. It has become a wonderful tradition now for the Northvale Preschool. Often times many young families first exposure to town events is through the Preschool. We love the opportunity to participate in these community events. Registration for 2025-2026 is open. We anticipate another year of full enrollment. Ambulance Corps responded to a total of 22 calls for the month of November. There were 10 to Northvale, 2 Rockleigh residential, 2 Jewish Home in Rockleigh, 1 Norwood, 2 Harrington Park, 3 Closter, 1 Demarest, and 1 Alpine. A big thank you to Iris Fallon and Kevin Trainor for an incredible Tree Lighting. Thank you to the DPW for making Hogans Northvale's own Hallmark Movie. It was an absolutely great night! Thank you to the Police Department, NVAC, Preschool, Northvale Public Schools, Boy & Girl Scouts, Shoprite, Starbucks, Northern Valley Chamber of Commerce, St Anthony's and Radiant Light Church, D'Ercoles Farm, and Cleatus Farm for your participation, donations, and attendance at the event. It was a great kick off to the holiday season and really reminded me of why I get involved, it is the community that comes together for these great moments. The Battle of Bulbs lighting competition deadline has been extended until tomorrow, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. Please enter your festively decorated house into the competition. Judging will take place on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilman Bakalian** – there were no meetings in November for the Planning/Zoning Board. Building Department issued a total of 8 permits and updated 1 permit in the month of November. The Building Department is using a new software, SDL, which understates the fee collection for November because the last week was not included. The old software terminated on November 25<sup>th</sup>. Fees collected for November were \$17,366 as compared to November of 2023 which were \$11,835. The year to date fees collected are \$26,218 more than last year. The Chamber of Commerce is discussing expanding their involvement in community events and getting involved at NVOT with the business student clubs. Thank you to everyone for a great tree lighting.

**Councilman Menafr**a – Fire Department statistics for the month of November are – 16 emergency calls totaling 127 man hours which included 5 fire alarms, 2 utility, 1 smoke condition, 1 structural fire, and 2 non-structural fires. There were 20 non-emergency calls totaling 378.25 man hours including 2 company drills. The VoIP phones and service installation is tentatively scheduled for January 2025. Fire Prevention performed 26 inspections and 9 reinspections for the month of November. Northvale Board of Education held their regular meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Pinajian reported that the newly opened Reset Center is thriving and providing opportunities for various students to participate in peer leadership roles. A detailed report regarding the Reset Center is expected to be presented at an upcoming board meeting in early 2025. Some building and grounds updates – softball and baseball field renovations are in progress, the blacktop in the rear of the school has been replaced, and the roof above the All Purpose Room is being corrected for leaks. More than 30 school policies and over a dozen school regulations were updated for compliance with upcoming QSAC evaluations. The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. Northern Valley Board of Education held their last meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. There was a presentation of awards for National Merit commended students. The Superintendent congratulated re-elected and newly elected school board members from Old Tappan, Norwood, and Closter. The school held the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual AI summit on December 9<sup>th</sup> with keynote speakers Ron Chandler from Apple and Arthur Chien, author of GPT Zero and AI detection tool. The Game Changer program was kicked off, which allows students to participate in recreational sports with Northern Valley Central students. The Superintendent recommended rejecting all bids for the NVOT Team Room renovation project since they came in over budget. The NVOT Girls Volleyball team finished a perfect season with a 25-0 record. The NVOT Football team won their second Group 3 state title, besting Mainland 28-16 at Rutgers. Mr. Spatz did a presentation on college counseling and process. Nationwide, college enrollment and attendance is decreasing. More than 80% of students were admitted to and attended one of their top choice schools. In a student completed survey, 94% of responders were satisfied with the high school's process and counseling program. NVOT held a Veteran's service on November 12<sup>th</sup>, career day on November 15<sup>th</sup>, and school play, The Witch's Princess, from November 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. The performance was great. Next meeting is scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at the NVD Media Center.



**Councilman Sokoloski** – Board of Health reorganization meeting will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Requested grants pending total \$1,844,459.79 which is down slightly. We are now submitting a CDBG grant for ADA restrooms at the firehouse for \$150,000. Grants awarded so far total \$1,595,802.

**Councilwoman Fernandez** – The Library’s next meeting is December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The Library had an art show on December 10<sup>th</sup> which was sponsored by Paint Smile Sip. They will be having a movie matinee on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm. The Library will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**Councilman Mattessich** – DPW has been picking up leaves and will be finished Friday. They have also been cleaning up parks and easements, removed hometown banners, installed Christmas banners and snowflake lights, stored summer seasonal equipment and mowers, shutdown water at the parks and winterized the bathrooms at each park, and decorated the Christmas tree and gazebo. Normal maintenance continues with potholes, brush pick up, appliance pickups, installing street signs as per requests by our police department. Senior Center Christmas luncheon is tomorrow at 12 noon. The center will be closed at 11 am on December 19<sup>th</sup> for the holiday luncheon for Northvale office staff employees. The center will be closed on Christmas Day. Golden Age Club’s Christmas party is tonight at Aurora’s in Old Tappan. The recreation meeting was held on November 19<sup>th</sup>. One topic of discussion was the fields at Hogan Park. The committee was curious to know when the dugouts would be installed and they would like to add more clay/dirt onto the infields of the baseball and softball fields. The boys and girls playing baseball or softball this year will now be part of the Little League Charter which will allow our kids to participate in the Little League Williamsport Tournament this summer. The 5/6 grade girls soccer team won the championship and the 7/8 grade boys won their championship. Indoor soccer begins in January. Basketball has 10 recreation teams and 2 travel teams.

**Mayor McGuire** – thank you to everyone who made our annual tree lighting ceremony at Hogan Park a huge success. Considering the cold and wind, we had an unbelievable turnout. The venue was much better suited to handle all of the children plus two bands, a choir, and a vendor area. Kudos to our DPW for the decorating of the park and Iris Fallon and Kevin Trainor for coordinating the event. The snowflakes look great on the street and more are on their way. Councilwoman McMorro spoke about the annual Battle of the Bulbs contest. Our Reorganization meeting will take place on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm, please note this time. It is 6:30 pm and not the usual 7 pm. We also have our annual Sine Die meeting on Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Just so everyone is clear on the Sine Die, that meeting is meant to finish up any last business for 2024 and there is no public comment at this meeting. Thank you to our local girl scouts. Troop leader Holly Ernst brought the girl scouts to Van Suan Park where they did an excellent job decorating the Northvale tree. Each year every town in Bergen County has a tree designated to them for a decorating contest. While we did not win the contest, the tree looked great and we thank them for representing us so well. Recycling pick up moves to Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas holiday and Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for New Years. Kudos to Northvale Police for apprehending two serious criminals caught breaking into the jewelry store in Northvale Square on Tuesday evening. Special thank you to the surrounding communities that helped apprehend the criminals. Great job!

#### **BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT**

**Mr. Ralph** had nothing to report at this time.

#### **BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT**

**Mr. Loverich** – the Senior Center ADA bathroom construction is underway. They should be done by Christmas. Scharer Avenue/Wildwood Road project is complete. There is a catch basin on Andre Avenue that needs repair work done. Will be meeting with the fencing contractor for quotes for the new fencing at Hogan Park.

#### **Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public.**

**Chris Bombino, 123 Rockland Avenue** – thanked the Borough for removing the mobile traffic sign. Thank you to Chief Ostrow for putting a patrol car on Chestnut Street which is more effective than the sign. He reported 1 violation to the Police on December 1<sup>st</sup>. There are a large volume of cars coming down the street and filling up the 17 spots. It is not horrific. Also thank you to our newly tenured Clerk for finding the 5 ordinances that were requested by an OPRA request. Chuck Thomas indicated the maximum capacity is 660. There are 3,600 parishioners.



Just found out the church has private security with Northvale and Norwood Police officers. What is the plan at 119 Rockland Avenue if they are exceeding the occupancy limit on Sundays at 12 noon? Mayor McGuire replied they are working with the Police. The Police are there every Sunday. We will work with Chuck Thomas to confirm the occupancy limit. It could be the 660 is for the worship area not including the classrooms.

Mr. Bombino spoke with the Police, who say it is not their job to keep an eye on the occupancy. Councilman Sokoloski explained the occupancy is up to Fire Prevention and the Building Department. The state sets the limit not Chuck. We will work together to solve this. Mr. Bombino asked if the Mayor will keep him apprised by email about the progress and he will attend Open Mic Nights and meetings. He continued with the variance resolutions say there is no parking. Mayor McGuire informs him that the Planning Board has no authority about parking. Councilman Sokoloski said the Planning Board could have put things in the variance but street parking is not for the Planning Board. Mr. Bombino asked if this would stand up to law. He continued that this ordinance was totally unnecessary. He is disappointed in the total governing body and feels they did not do their homework.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 PM. Motion was moved by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Council President McMorrow. All were in favor to adjourn.

*Joseph E. McGuire*

Mayor

**ATTEST:**

*Frances M. Weston*

Frances M. Weston  
Municipal Clerk

Approved: December 30, 2024

