



MINUTES

Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Wednesday, January 15, 2025
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 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 people in California and all the firefighters helping to fight the fires.

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call:

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

Other Officials Present:

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

Mayor McGuire stated that at this time we will go to the Senior Center to present certificates to the following championship teams:

- 5/6 Girls Soccer Champions
- 7/8 Boys Soccer Champions
- Northern Valley Volleyball Championship Team
- Northern Valley Football Championship Team

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Sine Die Meeting of December 30, 2024 AND the Reorganization Meeting of January 2, 2025. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Bakalian.

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

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. Neglia Group Proposal, January 8, 2025
Fencing Improvements-Hogan Park, NOVLMUN24.011
(Resolution #2025-45)
2. Fox Fence Quotes
Fencing – Hogan Park
(Resolution #2025-46)
3. Affordable Housing Report
(Resolution #2025-47)

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 #2025-30 through 2025-48. Motion was moved by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Menaфра.

RESOLUTION #2025-30

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT SUBMISSION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS’ FY25 LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to carry out a project to pave the parking lot at Veterans Park.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Joseph McGuire and Municipal Clerk Frances Weston are authorized to sign the application and that they or their successor in said title is authorized to sign the agreement and any other documents necessary.

RESOLUTION #2025-31

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BOROUGH ATTORNEY FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Attorney for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Borough Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and



WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Bruno & Ferraro, Esqs. as Borough Attorney for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Attorney for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Bruno & Ferraro, Esqs. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Borough Attorney during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-32

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT/APPRaiser FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Real Estate Consultant/Appraiser for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Real Estate Consultant/Appraiser; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Associated Appraisal Group as Real Estate Consultant/ Appraiser for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Real Estate Consultant/Appraiser for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Associated Appraisal Group at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Real Estate Consultant/Appraiser during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.



RESOLUTION #2025-33

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Tax Appeal Attorney for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget to compensate said Borough Tax Appeal Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Giblin and Gannaio Esqs, as Borough Tax Appeal Attorney for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Giblin & Gannaio, Esqs. for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Borough Tax Appeal Attorney. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Tax Appeal Attorney during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-34

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BOROUGH PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Public Defender for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget to compensate said Borough Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Jordan D. Yuelys, Esq., as Borough Public Defender for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that Jordan D. Yuelys, Esq. for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Borough Public Defender at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Borough Public Defender during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-35

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Engineer for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Borough Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Neglia Group., as Borough Engineer for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Engineer for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Neglia Group. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Engineer during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-36

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BOROUGH PLANNER FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Planner for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Borough Planner; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and



WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Neglia Group., as Borough Planner for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Planner for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Neglia Group. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Planner during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-37

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BONDING ATTORNEY FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Bonding Attorney for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Bonding Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Rogut McCarthy LLC, as Bonding Attorney for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Bonding Attorney for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Rogut McCarthy LLC at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Bonding Attorney during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.



RESOLUTION #2025-38

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER/LSRP FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of an Environmental Engineer/LSRP for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Environmental Engineer/LSRP; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires **that** a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Boswell Engineering as Environmental Engineer/LSRP for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Environmental Engineer/LSRP for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Boswell Engineering at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Environmental Engineer/LSRP during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-39

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A BOROUGH PROSECUTOR FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Borough Prosecutor for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget to compensate said Borough Prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Mark Fierro, Esq., as Borough Prosecutor for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that Mark Fierro, Esq. for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Borough Prosecutor. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Borough Prosecutor during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-40

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF GRANTSWRITER FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Grantswriter for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Grantswriter; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Bruno Associates Inc., as Grantswriter for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Grantswriter for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Bruno Associates Inc. at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Grantswriter during the year 2025 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the professional services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-41

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the professional services of a Risk Management Consultant for the year 2024 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay said professional persons are available by way of budget and to compensate said Risk Management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised; and



WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Barsa Insurance Agency as Risk Management Consultant for 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Risk Management Consultant for the year 2024 is hereby designated as Barsa Insurance Agency at rates as set forth in the professional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for said position shall be commensurate with the services rendered by said Risk Management Consultant during the year 2024 and shall be provided for in the salary and other expenses ordinances of the Borough of Northvale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the Risk Management Consultant’s Agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-42

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF IT CONSULTANT FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the services of an IT Consultant for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, funds to pay for said service are available by way of budget and to compensate said IT Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for these services must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate DART Computer Services Inc. as Borough IT Consultant for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough IT Consultant for the year 2025 is hereby designated as DART Computer Services Inc. at rates as set forth in the agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-43

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary for the Borough of Northvale to engage the services of a Professional Accounting firm for the year 2025 to provide services for the proper operation of the Borough; and



WHEREAS, funds to pay for said service are available by way of budget and to compensate said Professional Accounting Services; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the appointment for these services must be publicly advertised; and

WHEREAS, the Borough having previously advertised for submissions in response to a Request for Qualification for professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed all submissions received and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to designate Battaglia Associates, LLC as Borough Professional Accounting Services for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Borough Professional Accounting Services for the year 2025 is hereby designated as Battaglia Associates, LLC at rates as set forth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are authorized to enter into the services agreement for this appointment.

RESOLUTION #2025-44

TITLE: RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION #2024-164 AND AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO RETURN A PERFORMANCE BOND TO NORTHVALE GREENS, LLC

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale (“Northvale”) by Resolution #2024-164 authorized the Chief Financial Officer to return a performance bond to Rio Vista Management in the sum of \$38,330.00; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Rio Vista Management was not the Developer for the Project and did not post the performance bond; and

WHEREAS, the developer that posted the performance bond was Northvale Green LLC; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Governing Body hereby rescinds Resolution #2024-164 and hereby authorizes its Chief Financial Officer to return the remaining sum of \$38,330.00.00 to Northvale Greens, LLC.

RESOLUTION #2025-45

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH NEGLIA ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES (“NEA”) FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN, BIDDING, AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR JOHN L. HOGAN MEMORIAL PARK (“HOGAN PARK”) FENCING IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale (“Northvale”) is making fencing improvements at Hogan Park; and

WHEREAS, Northvale wishes to engage NEA to provide Engineering Design, Bidding, and Construction Management for this project; and

WHEREAS, NEA has submitted a proposed agreement for these services which the Borough finds reasonable.



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Governing Body hereby authorizes Mayor McGuire to enter into the proposed agreement with NEA.

RESOLUTION #2025-46

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF FENCING FROM FOX FENCING FOR HOGAN PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale (“Northvale”) is in need for fencing for Hogan Park; and

WHEREAS, Northvale has received quotes for this fencing from Fox Fence of 417 Crooks Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Fox Fencing is a New Jersey State Approved Co-op Vendor and has submitted fencing quotes as follows:

Field No. 1: \$82,140.00

Field No. 2: \$82,140.00

Six inch high fencing along the pathway between Field No. 2 and Field No. 3: \$21,470.00, for a total of \$185,750.00; and

WHEREAS, Northvale would be participating in the New Jersey State Approved Co-op #65MCESCCPS ESCNJ 24/25-15 Fencing Purchase Installation and Repair, Roofing Repair, and Maintenance Services; and

WHEREAS, Northvale has funding available from a 2023 Bergen County Open Space grant in the amount of \$80,000, which is a matching grant, and a 2024 NJ DCA Local Recreation Improvements Grant in the amount of \$73,000 (non-matching grant) for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorizes the purchase of fencing from Fox Fencing as set forth above.

RESOLUTION #2025-47

TITLE: RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO DCA’S FOURTH ROUND AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESENT NEED AND PROSPECTIVE NEED NUMBERS AS MODIFIED

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, Governor Murphy signed into law an Amendment to the Fair Housing Act (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 *et seq.*) (hereinafter “Amended FHA”); and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA requires the Department of Community Affairs (“DCA”) to produce non-binding estimates of fair share obligations on or before October 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the DCA issued a report on October 18, 2024 (“DCA Report”) wherein it reported its estimate of the obligation for all municipalities based upon its interpretation of the standards in the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, the DCA Report calculates Northvale’s Round 4 (2025-2035) obligations as follows: a Present Need or Rehabilitation Obligation of 8 units and a Prospective Need or New Construction Obligation of 112 units; and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA provides that the DCA Report is non-binding, thereby inviting municipalities to demonstrate that the Amended FHA would support lower calculations of Round 4 affordable housing obligations; and



WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3, a municipality’s average allocation factor is comprised of the equalized nonresidential factor, income capacity factor, and land capacity factor and shall be averaged to yield the municipality’s average allocation factor; and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA further provides that “[a]ll parties shall be entitled to rely upon regulations on municipal credits, adjustments, and compliance mechanisms adopted by COAH unless those regulations are contradicted by statute, including P.L. 2024, c.2, or binding court decisions” (N.J.S.A 52:27D-311(m)); and

WHEREAS, COAH regulations authorize vacant land adjustments as well as durational adjustments; and

WHEREAS, the DCA has released a Geographic Information Systems spatial data representation of the Land Capacity Analysis for P.L. 2024, c.2 containing the Vacant and Developable land information that serves as the basis for calculating the land capacity factor; and

WHEREAS, **Northvale** has reviewed the lands identified by the DCA for the land capacity factor with respect to the MOD-IV Property Tax List data, construction permit data, land use board approvals, configuration, and accessibility to ascertain whether these identified developable lands may accommodate development; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, Northvale relies on the DCA calculations of Northvale’s fair share obligations as modified herein to account for Northvale’s review of the lands identified by the DCA for the land capacity factor with respect to the MOD-IV Property Tax List data, construction permit data, land use board approvals, configuration, and accessibility to ascertain whether these identified developable lands may accommodate development, and as further set forth in detail and explained in the attached memo prepared by Northvale’s affordable housing planner, and Northvale seeks to commit to provide its fair share of 8 units present need and 99 units prospective need, subject to any vacant land and/or durational adjustments it may seek as part of the Housing Plan element and Fair Share Plan element it subsequently submits in accordance with the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, Northvale reserves the right to comply with any additional amendments to the FHA that the Legislature may enact; and

WHEREAS, Northvale also reserves the right to adjust its position in the event of any rulings in the *Montvale* case (MER-L-1778-24) or any other such action that alters the deadlines and/or requirements of the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, in the event that a third party challenges the calculations provided for in this Resolution, Northvale reserves the right to take such position as it deems appropriate in response thereto, including that its Round 4 Prospective Need Obligation should be lower than described herein; and

WHEREAS, in light of the above, the Governing Body finds that it is in the best interest of Northvale to commit to the modified present need and prospective need Fourth Round affordable housing fair share numbers set forth herein, subject to the reservations set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with AOC Directive #14-24 dated December 13, 2024, the Governing Body finds that, as a municipality seeking a certification of compliance with the FHA, it is in the best interests of Northvale to direct the filing of an action in the form of a declaratory judgment complaint within 48 hours after adoption of the within resolution of fair share obligations, or by February 3, 2025, whichever is sooner.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of January, 2025 by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. All of the above Whereas Clauses are incorporated into the operative clauses of this resolution.



2. Northvale hereby commits to [the DCA’s Round 4 Present Need Obligation of 8 units][no modification of the DCA’s Round 4 Present Need Obligation of 8 units to 8 units], and [the DCA’s Round 4 Prospective Need Obligation of 99 units] [a modification of the DCA’s Round 4 Prospective Need Obligation of 112 units to 99 units], as explained above and in the attached memo from Northvale’s affordable housing planner, and subject to all reservations of rights set forth above

3. Northvale hereby directs its attorney to file a declaratory judgment complaint in Bergen County within 48 hours after adoption of the within resolution and attaching this resolution as an exhibit with the attached memo.

4. Northvale authorizes its Attorney to submit and/or file the within resolution with attached memo with the Program or any other such entity as may be determined to be appropriate.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately, according to law.

RESOLUTION #2025-48

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FY25 NJDOT LOCAL FREIGHT IMPACT FUND GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTING A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO PEGASUS AVENUE LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”) has funds available through the FY25 Local Freight Impact Fund and solicits proposals for projects aimed toward the advancement of freight projects and movement of large truck traffic that emphasize and enhance safety, renew aging infrastructure, and promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, personnel have identified the roadway improvements on Pegasus Avenue as a project that fits the criteria of this program, which also furthers the interest of the public; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, formally approve the grant application for the above-stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as “LFIF-2025-Pegasus Avenue Roadway Improvement-00057” to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Northvale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Northvale and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Lyndsay Knight the Borough Planner explained Resolution #2025-47. The state calculated the 4th round of affordable housing prospective need and present need. She described the 3 factors. The present need for Northvale is 8 units and the prospective need was reduced from 112 units to 99 units. This is over 10 years. The housing element must be adopted by June of 2025. Councilman Bakalian asked about the rehab units. The 8 units can be done through rehab. Councilman Sokoloski asked if units involved in prior rounds count.

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

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION – 1st Reading

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the introduction on first reading of Ordinance #25-01. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

ORDINANCE #25-01

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES, WAGES AND COMPENSATION OF DPW CONTRACT EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY (Year 4 of 5-Year Contract – 2.50%)

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Department of Public Works Contract Employees shall consist of One Superintendent, and in the discretion of the Governing Body, there may be an Assistant Superintendent, Foremen and such other Department of Public Works employees as determined by the Governing Body.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SALARY SCHEDULE
EMPLOYEES HIRED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1995**

2025	2025
Less than 1 year of service	\$47,543.06
Beginning 2nd year of service	\$74,418.69
Beginning 3rd year of service	\$83,170.62
Beginning 4th year of service and thereafter	\$91,922.57
Working Foreman	\$10,157.82
C-2 License	\$772.67

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SALARY SCHEDULE
EMPLOYEES HIRED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1995**

2025	2025
Less than 1 year of service	\$52,503.78
Beginning 2nd year of service	\$61,635.90
Beginning 3rd year of service	\$74,418.48
Beginning 4th year of service	\$83,170.63
Beginning 5th year of service	\$91,922.57
Working Foreman	\$10,157.82
C-2 License	\$772.67

All Employees, regardless of date of hire, in this bargaining unit shall receive a CDL stipend payable by separate check, before June 1 of the year in which it is due as follows:

Effective 1/1/25	\$2,300.00
------------------	------------

Section 2. In addition to the compensation set forth in Section 1, each full time employee of the Borough of Northvale shall receive longevity pay as follows:



EMPLOYEES HIRED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1995

- 2% of the base annual pay after 5 years of service
- 4% of the base annual pay after 9 years of service
- 6% of the base annual pay after 13 years of service
- 8% of the base annual pay after 17 years of service
- 10% of the base annual pay after 21 years of service

Longevity shall be paid in two installments with the 1st pay check in July and the 1st pay check in December of each year and it is not to exceed \$7,500.00 in any one year.

EMPLOYEES HIRED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1995

Effective January 1, 1995, longevity pay will no longer be granted to any employees hired after January 1, 1995.

Section 3. The Superintendent of Public Works will designate a member of the Department each week to be available on a Saturday, Sunday or Holiday. Such time will be classified as “Stand By” time and shall be paid at the rate of \$215.00 per day.

Section 4. Each new and existing employee of the Department of Public Works shall receive \$2,000.00, effective January 1, 2022, for clothing allowance. Clothing allowance shall be paid by separate check in 2 (two) equal installments. The 1st (first) payment shall be in the 1st (first) pay period of each year and the 2nd (second) payment shall be during the 1st (first) pay period in July of each year.

Section 5. Time in excess of forty (40) hours per week for all full time employees is to be paid at the rate of time and one-half.

Section 6. All full time employees of the Department of Public Works shall be paid bi-weekly.

Section 7. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed.

Section 8. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage and publication.

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 on the introduction of first reading of Ordinance #25-02. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Sokoloski.

ORDINANCE #25-02

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES, WAGES AND COMPENSATION OF POLICE EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY (YEAR 3 of 5 Year Contract – 3.00%)

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. That the following annual salaries, wages, and compensation shall be paid to Police Employees of the Borough of Northvale in the amounts set forth opposite their respective title and commencing on January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025:



EMPLOYEES HIRED PRIOR TO 01-01-2023

Lieutenant	156,873.00
Sergeant	147,264.00
Patrolman	
Beginning:	
Seventh year	139,574.00
Sixth year	112,022.00
Fifth year	110,211.00
Fourth year	95,528.00
Third year	80,848.00
Second year	67,290.00
First year	59,870.00
Training pay	45,049.00

EMPLOYEES HIRED AFTER 01-01-2023

Lieutenant	156,873.00
Sergeant	147,264.00
Patrolman	
Beginning:	
Tenth year	139,574.00
Ninth year	125,106.00
Eighth year	112,022.00
Seventh year	110,211.00
Sixth year	95,528.00
Fifth year	88,188.00
Fourth year	80,848.00
Third year	74,069.00
Second year	67,290.00
First year	59,870.00
Training pay	45,049.00

Section 2. In addition to the compensation set forth in Section 1, each full time member of the Police Department hired before January 1, 2012, shall receive longevity pay as follows:

- 2% of annual base pay after 7 years of service
- 4% of annual base pay after 10 years of service
- 6% of annual base pay after 13 years of service
- 8% of annual base pay after 17 years of service
- 10% of annual base pay after 21 years of service

The following longevity schedule will take effect for all employees hired after January 1, 2012:

- 1.5% of annual base pay after 8 years of service
- 3% of annual base pay after 10 years of service
- 5% of annual base pay after 13 years of service
- 8% of annual base pay after 17 years of service
- 10% of annual base pay after 21 years of service

If an employee reaches a higher plateau of longevity entitlement at any time during the calendar year, then said employee shall be entitled to receive the full value of the higher plateau.

Section 3. Time in excess of the basic work week or tour for a day performed by a Lieutenant, Sergeant or Patrolman shall be compensated for at the rate of time and one-half.

Section 4. Each full-time member of the Police Department under Contract shall receive a lump sum compensation for thirteen (13) holidays, payable between December 1 and 5, 2025.



Section 5. There shall be paid to each full-time member of the Police Department during the year of attainment of college credits towards a Police Science Degree and in each year of service thereafter the sum of:

- \$ 300.00 upon completion of 25 credits
- \$ 600.00 upon completion of 45 credits
- \$1,000.00 upon completion of an Associate's Degree
- \$1,500.00 upon completion of a Bachelor's Degree

Where an employee qualifies for a higher plateau of credits during the first half of a calendar year (January 1 through June 30), then said employee shall be entitled to higher educational incentive payments starting the first day of July 1 of that same year and in each year of service thereafter. In the event that an Employee qualifies for a higher plateau of credits during the last half of the calendar year (July 1 through December 31), then the entitlement to higher educational compensation shall commence with the following January 1 and in each year of service thereafter.

Section 6. All full time employees of the Police Department shall be paid bi-weekly.

Section 7. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed.

Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage and publication according to law.

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 on the introduction of first reading of Ordinance #25-03. Motion was moved by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilwoman Fernandez.

ORDINANCE #25-03

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES, WAGES, AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The employees herein designated shall be paid up to the annual salaries as follows:

POSITION/TITLE	2025 SALARY
Mayor	\$6,516.39
Council Members	4,598.08
Borough Clerk, Bd. of Health Secretary, Registrar, DPW Secretary, Election and Safety Officer	92,250
Chief Financial Officer	43,075.62
Accounting Assistant	51,280.19
Deputy Registrar	4,189.18
Qualified Purchasing Agent	6,303.75
Tax Collector/Payroll Clerk	79,884.27
Tax Assessor	24,835.79
UCC Building Subcode Official	9,980.93
Electrical Sub-Code Official	13,716.55
Construction Code Official	14,919.49



Fire Prevention Inspector	16,058.68
Fire Sub-code Official	9,768.25
Plumbing & Mechanical Sub-code Official	12,357.87
Construction Code Technical Assistant	48,418.77
Planning Board Secretary	5,253.13
Code Compliance Secretary	2,500.00
Municipal Affordable Housing Liaison	2,250.00
Fire Prevention Secretary	3,003.25
Code Compliance Officer	27,999.03
Fire Prevention Officer	17,660.75
Magistrate	30,075.35
Acting Judge	250.00 per session
Court Administrator	33,693.86
Deputy Court Clerk / Violations Clerk	Up to 28.00 per hour
Recording Clerk	Up to 25.00 per hour
Municipal Court Attendant	75.00 per session
Municipal Prosecutor	Up to \$13,639.68
Public Defender	5,851.28
Alternate Public Defender	150.00 per case
DPW Superintendent	134,100
Assistant DPW Superintendent & Pest Control Officer	129,100
DPW Part-time / Seasonal Worker	15.00 – 18.00 per hour
Public / Special Events Coordinator	5,000.00
Recreation Director	5,000.00
Senior Center Director	47,962.00
Senior Center Assistant to the Director	Up to 19.00 per hour
Senior Center Assistants	Up to 15.00 per hour
Senior Van Driver	Up to 21.00 per hour
Fire Department Engineer	1,700.00
Fire Department SCBA	1,500.00
Library Director	78,000.00
Youth Services Librarian (NJ Certified)	46,060.82
Senior Library Assistant	20.00 – 25.00 per hour
Library Assistant	15.00 – 19.00 per hour
Library Monitor / Page	Up to 15.00 per hour
Library Custodian	Up to 15.00 per hour

Section 2. The compensation of Special Police and School Crossing Guards shall be as follows:

School Crossing Guards - per hour \$ 25.06

Section 3. Time in excess of forty (40) hours per week for all full-time employees is to be paid at the rate of time and one-half excluding all statutory appointments.

Section 4. All full-time Borough employees and School Crossing Guards shall be paid bi-weekly, or as determined by resolution of the Mayor and Council.

Section 5. Sick leave policies for all employees other than D.P.W. Contract and Police Contract employees are in accordance with Administrative Rules, Regulations and Practices.

Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed.



Section 7. Salaries, wages and compensation herein set forth shall be retroactive to January 1, 2025.

Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage and publication according to law.

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	Ye

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 – There were no updates to report for the Preschool. The Ambulance Corps had 25 calls for the month of December: 14 Northvale, 1 Rockleigh residential, 1 Rockleigh Jewish Home, 1 Norwood, 4 Harrington Park, 2 Closter, 1 Demarest. The next meeting will be January 21st at 7:30 pm. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Chief Fallon. The Police had a few arrests – female 36 from Northvale 1 count of shoplifting; male 53 from Ohio 1 count burglary, 1 count criminal mischief, 1 count possession of burglary tools, 1 count eluding a police officer; male 60 from Ohio 1 count burglary, 1 count criminal mischief; female 42 from Connecticut 1 count uttering a forged document, 1 count assuming false identity, 1 count theft by deception. Police had 683 total events for the month of December: 108 selective enforcement details, 98 motor vehicle stops, 37 school safety checks, 13 motor vehicle crashes, 37 burglary alarms, 34 suspicious incidents, 1 commercial burglary. Officers Sedano, Sullivan and Murphy received Shield awards from the Knights of Columbus for their resuscitative efforts performed on a female at the Rockleigh in December of 2023. Officers Albanese and Leenas received Valar awards from the Bergen County Police Chief’s Association for their efforts in locating a subject response for a home invasion on July 27, 2024 in the Borough of Norwood. Officers Carroll, Criscuolo and Sullivan have all successfully completed the field training program and are now taking on full patrol duties within the work schedule.

Councilman Bakalian – there were no meetings in December for the Planning Board. The Building Department issued 20 permits and updated 1 permit. They are using a new software, SDL. The December report includes data from the last week of November. Fees collected for December 2024 were \$14,373 as compared to December 2023 of \$19,168. The year-to-date fees collected are \$238,667 which is \$46,350 more than last year.

Councilman Menafra – Fire Department stats for the month of December: 20 emergency calls totaling 106 man hours which include 13 fire alarms, 1 carbon monoxide alarm, 1 smoke condition and 1 non-structural fire. There were 17 non-emergency calls totaling 469 man hours including 3 company drills. Fire Prevention statistics for the month of December were 22 inspections and 19 re-inspections. Municipal Alliance has two events coming up – a parent focused Vaping 101 information session on Tuesday, January 28th from 6-7 pm in the Library and a student focused Rising Above the Vapor information session on Thursday, February 20th from 4-5 pm in the Library. Thank you to Lauren for arranging these events. Northvale Board of Education held their regular meeting on December 19th. Mr. Pinajian thanked Mrs. Cowley and Mrs. Marinuzzi for their work as board members. He also noted the success of a talk given by inspirational speaker Jordan Toma to 6th through 8th grade students during the week of December 8th. Jordan spoke about the academic and social emotional challenges he faced growing up as a student with a learning disability. The holiday concert was held on December 10th. The Board reorganization meeting was held on January 2nd. New board members Mrs. Horgan and Mrs. Sposa were sworn in. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 23rd at 6:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. Northern Valley Regional High School last meeting was held on December 16th. The Superintendent reported that on December 9th the 2nd annual AI Summit will be held. Their reorganization meeting was held on January 6th. Newly elected and reelected board members Michael Caunedo, Beverly MacKeen, Michele LaTour, and GC Vaghasia were



sworn in. The two teams, Girls Volleyball and the football team, will be honored at the January meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 27th at 7:30 pm in the NVD Media Center.

Councilman Mattessich – did not get a chance to meet with Billy and Briant but will meet with them next week. The snowplows are ready and the streets were salted during the recent snow events. Normal maintenance continues with pothole repairs, brush pick up, appliance pickups, and installing street signs as necessary. The Senior Center will be closed on January 20th for Martin Luther King Day. The monthly breakfast will be held on January 21st at 10 am. On January 29th there will be a seminar for the seniors to discuss Medicaid with Robert J. Romano, Esq. The bathrooms were finished and came out great. The Golden Age Club Christmas party was held on December 11th at Aurora’s in Old Tappan and Mayor McGuire, my wife Annette, and I had a great time celebrating with the members. New membership sign ups are this month. The club has so many members that they are only accepting applications from Northvale residents only. The last recreation meeting was held on November 19th. Congratulations to the winning teams that were honored tonight. Indoor soccer and basketball have started. The next meeting is January 21st at 7:30 pm.

Councilwoman Fernandez – the Library had a meeting on January 22nd. They will be having a movie matinee with Twister as the movie. It will be the Library’s 10 year anniversary in 2025. We will be meeting to discuss the community garden.

Councilman Sokolowski – the Board of Health held their reorganization meeting on January 9th. All prior members are still holding office. The consultant working for Northern Valley Greenway has reached out to the Open Space Institute. They are talking with CSX about purchasing the abandoned rail line. This is the first time CSX is showing interest in this project. Requested grants pending total \$1,994,459 which has increased by \$150,000 since last month. We have reapplied for the new DPW garage grant for \$583,920 from the federal government. We are also applying for a CDBG grant of \$100,000 to pave the parking lot at Veterans Park and applying for a NJDOT grant to pave Pegasus Avenue. Grants awarded so far total \$1,595,802.

Mayor McGuire – At yesterday’s State of the State address by Governor Murphy he outlined his plans for this year. One item that causes great concern for everyone in our area is his commitment to essentially gut local zoning laws and pave the way for “thousands and thousands” of apartments/affordable housing. I cannot disagree more with the Governor on this initiative and it is a threat to everyone who wishes to live in suburbia. It’s not right and I stand with my fellow Mayors in this area, Democrat and Republican, along with this Council stating that we will fight this initiative with everything we have.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Ralph – since the resolution was just passed authorizing the Borough Attorney to file a declaratory judgment complaint, the complaint will be filed tomorrow.

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Loverich – the contractor will be here tomorrow to install the benches and trash cans on Livingston Street which should be a one day project. Next week, the contractor will fix the basin on Andre Avenue.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public.

Chris Bombino, 123 Rockland Avenue – asked if the headcount was done at Cho Dae Church. Mayor McGuire informed him that our Construction Code Official went to the church and advised that they are not over capacity. Mr. Bombino went over the emails that he sent to the Chief and Mayor and Council with violations from December 15th, December 22nd, and this past Sunday. He requested permanent signage from the corner to the fire hydrant and would like to have the cones removed Sunday nights. There have been vehicles waiting to pick up people which he feels is due to this new ordinance. He has seen cars enter Mufson and not come out. If this ordinance will not be changed, he will share the evidence at every meeting with the Mayor and Council. He spoke with a guard at the church who has spoken with the Elders and does not like the new configuration. He would like to take videos to show the Council.



ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. Motion was moved by Councilman Menafrá, 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: February 12, 2025

