



MINUTES
Sine Die Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Monday, December 30, 2024
7:00 PM

To view the Mayor & Council meeting via livestream, please access the YouTube link which is posted on the Northvale website, www.northvalenj.org. Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

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

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

“This is the Sine Die 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 remembering President Carter and his family.

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
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

Mayor McGuire presented a trophy to the Best Overall winner of the 2nd Annual Battle of the Bulbs contest. The other winners were presented with a certificate. Winners were as follows:

Best Overall – The Furletti Family
Best Use of Traditional Holiday Light – The Mancuso Family
Best Curb Appeal – The Meola Family
Best Use of Technology – The Confreda Family

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor McGuire stated that Glenn Brunet has resigned from the Planning Board effective December 31, 2024. He and his wife will be moving to Florida. He will be replaced with Ken DeGennaro at the Planning Board Reorganization meeting on January 8th who will serve out the remainder of Mr. Brunet’s appointment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of December 11, 2024. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Sokoloski.

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



CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. Bergen County Open Space Trust
2024 Hogan Park Improvement Program Contract
(Resolution #2024-171)
- 2. Shared Service Agreement-Northvale/Rockleigh
Catch Basin Repairs
(Resolution #2024-172)
- 3. Corrective Action Plan – 2023 Audit
(Resolution #2024-173)

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 #2024-171 through 2024-176. Motion was moved by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Council President McMorro.

RESOLUTION #2024-171

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BERGEN COUNTY FOR A MATCHING GRANT AWARD FROM THE 2024 FUNDING ROUND OF THE BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION, FARMLAND & HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND (“TRUST FUND”)

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale wish to enter into a Bergen County Trust Fund for the purpose of using a \$119,571.00 matching grant for the municipal park project entitled Hogan Memorial Park (Block 602 Lot 2); New Chain-Link Fencing, New Backstops and Dugouts, located in the Borough of Northvale; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council authorize Mayor Joseph McGuire to be a signatory to the aforesaid Contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby acknowledge that, in general use, the use of this Trust Fund grant towards this approved park project must be completed by or about November 13, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant will be disbursed to the Borough of Northvale as a reimbursement upon submittal of certified Trust Fund payment and project completion documents and municipal vouchers, invoices, proofs of payment, and other such documents as may be required by the County in accordance with the Trust Funds’ requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant disbursement to the municipality with be equivalent to fifty (50) percent of the eligible construction costs incurred (not to exceed total grant award) applied towards only the approved park improvements identified in the aforesaid contract in accordance with the Trust Fund’s requirements. Professional Services Costs may be reimbursed from grant award’s unexpended balance, should there be a balance.



RESOLUTION #2024-172

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF ROCKLEIGH FOR CATCH BASIN INSPECTIONS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale and the Borough of Rockleigh wish to enter into a shared service agreement whereby Northvale DPW will inspect catch basins in Rockleigh; and

WHEREAS, the agreement is authorized under the Uniform Shared Service and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interests of the Borough of Northvale to execute this Shared Service Agreement substantially in conformance with the proposed Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a shared service agreement with the Borough of Rockleigh as set forth herein.

RESOLUTION #2024-173

TITLE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE 2023 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the 2023 Annual Audit of the Borough of Northvale conducted by Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo & Cuva PA, contained certain recommendations requiring action; and

WHEREAS, these recommendations have been reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer in accordance with the requirements promulgated by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, has developed a plan to address the recommendations listed by the auditor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Corrective Action Plan for the 2023 Annual Audit is hereby approved and accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Division of Local Government Services.

RESOLUTION #2024-174

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH HARTMAN EXCAVATING FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE BOROUGH'S YARD WASTE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale owns real property designated on the Tax Map as Block 1101, Lot 8 ("the Property") on which a leaf composting facility has been operated at the Borough's recycling site ("Compost Facility"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough finds that the public interest will be advanced by a contract providing for the operation of the Compost Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to engage a contractor to perform services related to the management and maintenance of the Borough's Compost Facility; and

WHEREAS, Hartman Excavating has submitted a proposal for these services which the Borough finds to be fair and reasonable.



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council authorize Mayor Joseph McGuire to enter into a contract with Hartman Excavating for these services which shall include the following terms:

- 1. The term of the agreement shall be five years, beginning January 1, 2025.
- 2. The annual value of the services shall be as follows:
 - A. 2025: \$27,000.00
 - B. 2026 \$27,000.00
 - C. 2027 \$28,000.00
 - D. 2028 \$28,000.00
 - E. 2029 \$29,000.00
- 3. The Borough shall forego payment of rent from Hartman Excavating for Hartman’s use and operation of the compost facility in exchange for Hartman Excavating providing no charge services and goods to the Borough for the duration of the contract.

RESOLUTION #2024-175

TITLE: TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE CURRENT FUND BUDGET FOR 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,100

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; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached transfers are hereby authorized in the total amount of \$28,100.

DEPARTMENT	GROUP	ACCOUNT	FROM	TO
Administration: Other Expense	OE	4-01-20-100-206		6,200
Employee Health Benefits	OE	4-01-23-220-201		4,000
Senior Bus Trips	OE	4-01-28-370-201		400
Parks & Playgrounds - Field Main & Supplies	OE	4-01-28-375-206		8,000
Parks & Playgrounds - Equipment & Supplies	OE	4-01-28-375-204		9,500
Financial Admin Salaries	S&W	4-01-20-130-101	1,500	
Financial Administration: Other Expenses	OE	4-01-20-130-202	2,000	
Tax Collection Expenses Other Expenses	OE	4-01-20-145-203	750	
Tax Collection Assessment Other Expenses	OE	4-01-20-150-204	1,500	
Planning Board Other Expenses	OE	4-01-21-180-207	1,500	
Code Compliance Salaries Regular	S&W	4-01-22-196-101	1,500	
Police Dept.- Other Expense	OE	4-01-25-240-206	750	



Streets & Roads Other Expenses	OE	4-01-26-290-202	3,000	
Streets & Roads Other Expenses	OE	4-01-26-290-209	8,000	
Building & Grounds Other Expense	OE	4-01-26-310-203	<u>7,600</u>	
Total Appropriation Transfer			<u>28,100</u>	<u>28,100</u>

RESOLUTION #2024-176

TITLE: RESOLUTION CANCELLING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE CURRENT FUND OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2024 TOTALING \$55,000

WHEREAS, unexpended balances exist in the **2024 Operating Budget** for Current Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to officially cancel such balances so funds can be transferred to surplus at year-end, and anticipated as revenue item in the following year budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, New Jersey, that unexpended balances in the amount of **\$55,000** listed below, be cancelled, and lapsed to Surplus.

POLICE	SW	\$ 20,000.00
STREETS ROADS	SW	\$ 8,000.00
CONSTRUCTION CODE	SW	\$ 20,000.00
SEWER SYSTEM	OE	\$ 4,000.00
RECYCLING SALARIES	SW	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$ 55,000.00</u>

RESOLUTION \$2024-177

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)	\$53,208.42
Current Fund Appropriations (2023)	-
General Capital Fund	26,034.96
Grant Fund	2,232.07
Animal Trust	
Police DEA Trust	27,009.75
Escrow Trust	38,330.00
Affordable Housing Trust	



Recreation Trust	
Summer Recreation Trust	43,011.00
SUBTOTAL	\$189,826.20
Retro Current Fund (2024)	
	\$189,826.20

WHEREAS, above claims have been listed and summarized in the attached Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, 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	12/06/2024	168,438.20
Payroll- Salaries & Wages	12/20/2024	226,445.70
Health Benefits	12/12/2024	55,685.40
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education	12/10/24	963,457.08
Northern Valley Regional High School District	12/10/24	963,457.08
Northvale Public Library	12/10/24	577,078.20
Capital - Interfund		
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter		
DTC- Bond Interest		
TOTAL		\$3,144,387.90

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$3,144,387.90** and ratified respectively.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Consent Agenda resolutions only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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

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

Mayor McGuire thanked everyone for this year and looks forwarding to 2025. The Reorganization meeting is this Thursday at 6:30 pm. Happy New Year.



ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Fernandez, 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: January 15, 2025

