

**PUBLIC MEETING  
MINUTES**

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers and called to order at 7:35 PM. Adequate notification was published in the official newspaper of the Borough of Montvale.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to The Bergen Record and/or The Ridgewood News, informing the public of the time and place according to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

Also Present: Mayor Mike Ghassali; Borough Attorney, Joe Voytus; Borough Engineer, Andrew Hipolit; Administrator/Municipal Clerk, Maureen Iarossi-Alwan; and Deputy Municipal Clerk, Fran Scordo

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilmember Arendacs

Councilmember Lane

Councilmember Curry - absent

Councilmember Roche

Councilmember Koelling

Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang

**Freeholder Tom Sullivan**

Mentioned as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, "Freeholders" will now be called Commissioners; thanked all Councilmembers, Mayor Ghassali and the members of the new Diversity Committee; Bergen County is second with having the most towns of diversity in the State; Mr. Sullivan presented a Certificate of Accommodation to members of the council and members of the Diversity Committee, in Honor and Recognition in participation in Montvale's first diversity committee; wanted to thanked all the candidates that ran for council in November.

**SWEARING IN MONTVALE POLICE OFFICERS:**

Krystian Maleszewski

Nicholas Mazzeo

**PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL SERVICE AWARD:**

Voorhees Outstanding Service Award recipient - Richard Voorhees

**ORDINANCES:**

**INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1490** AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 344, "STORMWATER MANAGEMENT," BY REPLACING ARTICLE I, "MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS"  
(Public Hearing 12-29-2020)

A motion to Introduce Ordinance **2020-1490** for first reading was made by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title only; Councilmember Lane made a motion that this ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised in The Bergen Record; seconded by Councilmember Koelling a roll call was taken – all ayes

**INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1491**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53(m) TO FUND A DEFICIT IN OPERATIONS OF THE BOROUGH DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO COVID-19 WHICH IS ANTICIPATED TO BE EXPERIENCED BY THE BOROUGH IN THE CURRENT 2020 FISCAL YEAR  
(Public Hearing 12-29-2020)

A motion to Introduce Ordinance **2020-1491** for first reading was made by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title only; Councilmember Lane made a motion that this ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised in The Bergen Record; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - A roll call was taken – all ayes

**INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1492**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SALARY ORDINANCES OF 2020 TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE, AMOUNT AND METHOD OF PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO PERSONS HOLDING CERTAIN OFFICES AND POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

(Public Hearing 12-29-2020)

A motion to Introduce Ordinance **2020-1492** for first reading was made by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title only; Councilmember Lane made a motion that this ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised in The Bergen Record; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - A roll call was taken – all ayes

**INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1493**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING A TAX EXEMPTION AND PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES PROGRAM FOR MONTVALE FAMILY APARTMENTS URBAN RENEWAL, LLC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 100% AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON BLOCK 1002, LOTS 3 AND 5

(Public Hearing 12-29-2020)

A motion to Introduce Ordinance **2020-1493** for first reading was made by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title only; Councilmember Lane made a motion that this ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised in The Bergen Record; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - A roll call was taken – all ayes

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

Agenda Items Only

Motion to open meeting to the public by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling – all ayes

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to close meeting to the public by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang – all ayes

**MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC:**

Agenda Items Only

**MINUTES:**

November 24, 2020

Removed for next meeting

**CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

November 24, 2020

A motion to accept the closed session minutes by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang - all ayes

**RESOLUTIONS: (CONSENT AGENDA\*)**

\*All items listed on a consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Borough Council and will be approved by a motion, seconded and a roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member(s) so request it, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

**192-2020 COVID -19 SPECIAL EMERGENCY/Certification of Chief Financial Officer and Approval of Governing Body**

**WHEREAS**, The Borough of Montvale has experienced COVID 19 related revenue loss during the budget year 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 2020, c. 74 provides for the funding of these revenue losses through a COVID Special Emergency, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to qualify for a special emergency under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-53, as amended by P.L.2020, c. 74, the Borough must, prior to December 1, make application to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to obtain an approval of the certification of the special emergency and the resulting deferred charge in advance of the close of budget year 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has requested and received an extension to December 9, 2020 to make application to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that there is an operational gap attributable to COVID -19 affected revenue loss which needs to be addressed prior to year-end;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale (by not less than a majority vote of the full governing body members affirmatively concurring), in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-53, as amended by P.L. 2020, c. 74, as follows:

1. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to submit an application to the Division Director on the prescribed form and shall certify that the deficits in revenue are directly attributable to COVID-19.
2. The Chief Financial Officer has submitted said certification to the governing body for approval (attached to this resolution).
3. The Borough Council by approval of this resolution approves the certification made by the Chief Financial Officer related to COVID-19 Special Emergency.
4. The Borough Council directs the Chief Financial Officer, the Auditor and Bond Counsel to prepare the Ordinance and Resolution for Special Emergency COVID-19 related revenue deficit pursuant to statute and regulations resulting from P.L.2020, c. 74.
5. That two (2) certified copies of this resolution will be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

**193-2020 COVID -19 SPECIAL EMERGENCY SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESOLUTION-N.J.S.A 40A:4-53**

**WHEREAS**, it has been found necessary to adopt a Special Emergency Appropriation to meet certain Extraordinary COVID-19 affected revenue losses incurred, or to be incurred, related to the COVID pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 allows a municipality to authorize special emergency appropriations for COVID-19 related revenue loss incurred during the COVID-19 related public health emergency, and provides that it shall be lawful to adopt such special emergency, which appropriation and/or the "special emergency notes" issued to finance the same shall be provided for in succeeding annual budgets by the inclusion of an appropriation as prescribed by the act and in compliance with the Division of Local Government Services regulations set forth as part of the COVID-19 Operating Deficits: Implementation of P.L. 2020, c.74.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, (by not less 2/3 vote of the full governing body members affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:4-55:

1. The Chief Financial Officer has been directed by resolution adopted on December 8, 2020 to make a written application and certify to the Division Director, on the prescribed form, that the deficits

in revenue are directly attributable to COVID-19, and said certification was approved by the governing body and submitted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

2. A Special Emergency Deferred Charge is hereby established for COVID-19 affected revenue losses in the total amounts of \$320,000 in the Current Fund.

3. That the total emergency appropriation shall be provided for in the budgets of succeeding years beginning in 2022 by the inclusion of not less than \$64,000 in the Current Fund.

4. That special emergency notes, not in excess of the amount authorized pursuant to law, may be issued.

5. That such notes when issued shall be executed by Borough of Montvale Chief Financial Officer, Mayor and Borough Clerk. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell said notes and any renewals thereof from time to time.

6. That said Special Emergency Notes may be issued to address the cash flow needs related to the deferred charge in compliance with the provisions of P.L. 2020, c.74.

7. That two (2) certified copies of this resolution will be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

#### **194-2020 Cancellation Of Improvement Authorizations**

**WHEREAS**, there exists unexpended improvement authorization balances on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the unexpended improvement authorization balances remain dedicated to projects now completed or the balances are determined to be in excess of the amounts necessary for the completion of the projects; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be credited to deferred charges to future taxation unfunded, reserve for payment of debt or fund balance and the unused debt authorizations may be cancelled;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale that the following unexpended improvement authorization balances be cancelled:

#### **GENERAL CAPITAL FUND:**

<b><u>ORDINANCE</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>FUNDED</u></b>	<b><u>UNFUNDED</u></b>
2007-1269	2007 Road Improvement Program	\$32,964.53	
2016-1413	Various Capital Improvements	58,340.83	
2020-1482	Various Capital Improvements		\$3,585.47
		<u>\$91,305.36</u>	<u>\$3,585.47</u>
		=====	=====

#### **195-2020 Cancellation Of 2019 Current Fund Appropriation Reserve Balance**

**WHEREAS**, there exists an unexpended 2019 Current Fund budget appropriation reserve balance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balance so that the unexpended balance may be credited to surplus;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale that the following unexpended 2019 Current Fund budget appropriation reserve balance be cancelled:

#### **GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"

Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues

Municipal Alliance Program – County Funds      \$9,876.00  
=====

**196-2020 Cancellation Of Prior Year Outstanding Checks**

**WHEREAS**, there exists outstanding checks from the prior year drawn against the General Checking Account and Payroll Account, and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that the outstanding checks from the prior year be cancelled to Current Fund surplus;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, that the following outstanding checks from the prior year be cancelled:

**GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>ACCCOUNT</u>
10/09/18	15233	\$65.00	Current	Surplus
12/11/18	15487	545.00	Current	Surplus
03/12/19	15869	45.00	Current	Surplus
05/28/19	16205	180.00	Current	Surplus
10/29/19	16860	<u>188.30</u>	Current	Surplus

\$1,023.30

=====

**PAYROLL ACCOUNT**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>ACCCOUNT</u>
11/30/18	81086	\$182.95	Current	Surplus
11/30/18	81106	90.14	Current	Surplus
11/30/18	81108	336.00	Current	Surplus
11/30/19	81521	181.31	Current	Surplus
12/31/19	81556	<u>.10</u>	Current	Surplus

\$790.50

=====

**197-2020 Cancellation Of Receivable Balance**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a receivable balance on the Current Fund balance sheet of the Borough of Montvale; and

**WHEREAS**, the funds creating the receivable balance have been investigated, and it has been determined that the receivable balance should be cancelled; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balance so that the uncollected receivable balance on the Current Fund balance sheet may be charged to fund balance;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, that the following receivable balance be cancelled:

**Current Fund**

Grants Receivable:

Municipal Alliance Program – County Funds <\$6,372.22>

**198-2020 A Resolution Approving the Borough of Montvale “Remote Work” Program Policy**

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it may be necessary or advisable to authorize certain employees to work remotely, rather than at the Borough offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Montvale is desirous of adopting a “Remote Work” policy to formalize the procedures that will be applicable to Borough Employees related to working remotely and requests related to same; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Administrator and Office Manager, in consultation with the Borough Attorney, have developed the Borough of Montvale "Remote Work" Program Policy, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale does hereby endorse and approve the Borough of Montvale "Remote Work" Program Policy.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**199-2020 Cancellation of Tax and Excess Sewer Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council may authorize the Tax Collector to process, without further action on their part, any cancellation of property tax and excess sewer overpayments or delinquencies of less than \$10.00

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Tax Collector to cancel said property tax and excess sewer amounts as deemed necessary.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Chief Finance Officer.

**200-2020 Award Contract/East Coast Emergency Lighting/Upfitting To Police Vehicles/ State Contract #T0106 17 – Fleet-00-743**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council approved the purchase of 2 new police vehicles for the Borough of Montvale's Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Montvale deemed it necessary to upfit these vehicles for the purposes intended; and

**WHEREAS**, East Coast Emergency Lighting, Inc. 200 Mecco Drive, Millstone Township, NJ 08535 is the State Contract vendor selected to do said upfitting to these vehicles; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Mayor and Council authorize the Borough to award the State Contract State Contract #T0106 17 – Fleet-00-743 to East Coast Emergency for a not to exceed amount of \$13,346.91 each for a total amount of \$26,693.82 for the upfitting of these vehicles; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available and certification is attached to the original of this resolution.

**201-2020 A Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Montvale Police Department to Apply, Enroll and Participate in the Department of Defense Law Enforcement Support Office ("LESO") 1033 Program to Enable the Montvale Police Department to Request and Acquire Excess Department of Defense Equipment/Year 2021**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense Law Enforcement Support Office ("LESO") facilitates a law enforcement support program, which originated from the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, Federal law permits the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense to transfer to municipal, federal and State agencies personal property of the Department of Defense that the secretary determines is suitable for use by agencies in law enforcement activities; and

**WHEREAS**, informally known as the "1033 Program", this initiative allows local law enforcement agencies to obtain, at little or no cost, surplus federal property, including vehicles, small arms, rescue equipment, medical supplies, and even office supplies originally intended for use by the United States Armed Forces; and

**WHEREAS**, although equipment is provided through the 1033 Program at no cost to municipal law enforcement agencies, these entities are responsible for costs associated with the maintenance, fueling and upkeep of this equipment, and for specialized training for its operation; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2015, Governor Christie signed Senate Bill No. 2364 (P.L. 2015, c.23), which now establishes, in the absence of federal requirements, a system of local oversight over local law enforcement agencies that participate in and acquire equipment through the 1033 Program; and **WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-30.2a, municipal governing bodies must now authorize participation in the 1033 Program by a "resolution adopted by a majority of the full membership of the governing body of a local unit prior to transmittal of any such application to the State Coordinator" of the 1033 Program; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-30.2b, the acquisition of any property by a local law enforcement agency shall be approved by a "resolution adopted by a majority of the full membership of the governing body"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police of the Montvale Police Department has requested that the Governing Body authorize the Police Department to participate in the 1033 Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale has determined that it is in the best interests of the residents of the Borough of Montvale to authorize the Police Department to apply, enroll and participate in the 1033 Program

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Chief of Police or his designee, on behalf of the Montvale Police Department, is hereby authorized and empowered to apply, enroll and participate in the Department of Defense Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Program, with the authorization to participate terminating on December 31 of the current calendar year.
2. The Chief of Police shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements for participation as outlined in 10 U.S.C. 2576a for all controlled equipment.
3. The Montvale Police Department is hereby authorized to acquire items of non-controlled property designated as DEMIL A, which may include office supplies, office furniture, computers, electronic equipment, generators, field packs, non-military vehicles, clothing, traffic and transit signal systems, exercise equipment, farming and moving equipment, storage devices and containers, tools, medical and first aid equipment and supplies, personal protection equipment and supplies, construction materials, lighting supplies, beds and sleeping mats, wet and cold weather equipment and supplies, respirators, binoculars, and any other supplies or equipment of a non-military nature identified by the LEA, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this resolution authorizes, based on the needs of the Montvale Police Department, without restriction.
4. The Montvale Police Department is further authorized to acquire the identified "DEMIL B through Q" property on Exhibit A, attached hereto and expressly made a part hereof, if it shall become available in the period of time for which this resolution authorizes.
5. The Police Chief shall develop and implement a full training plan and policy for the maintenance and use of any acquired property; and
6. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-30.2b, the Chief of Police, or his designee, shall maintain an inventory of surplus property obtained under the 1033 Program, and shall provide a quarterly accounting of all property obtained through the 1033 Program, which shall be available to the public upon request; and
7. This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall be valid to authorize requests to acquire the above-identified DEMIL A property and DEMIL B through Q property that may be made available through the 1033 Program during the period of time for which this resolution

**BOROUGH OF MONTVALE****DECEMBER 8, 2020**

authorizes, with Program participation and all property request authorization terminating on December 31 of the current calendar year.

**202-2020 Award Lease/Purchase Police Vehicle / Hertrich Fleet Services / Ford Motor Credit Municipal Finance State Contract # A88729 (T2776)**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council approved 2021 Dodge Charger 4 Door Sedan Police vehicle to finance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Montvale hereby authorized the execution of a Master three year lease agreement with Hertrich Fleet Services, Ford Motor Credit Company in the amount of \$59,005.14 for a term of 36 months; and

**WHEREAS**, payments shall be made to Ford Motor Credit Company, Municipal Finance, P.O. Box 1739 MD 7500, Dearborn, MI 48121-1739; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available and certification is attached to the original of this resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Mayor and Council authorize the Borough Administrator to execute this lease agreement with the above- named vendor.

**203A-2020 Authorize Release Of Performance Guarantee/Montvale Development Associates, LLC/ Block 2802/Lot 2 & 3 Block 1002/Lots 3 & 5/Posting Of Two Year Maintenance Bond**

**WHEREAS**, Montvale Development Associates, Shoppes At DePiero Farm has requested a release of their cash Performance Guarantee; and

**WHEREAS**, a completed inspection of the site has been conducted by Maser Consulting P.A., based on the escrow owed Maser Consulting takes no exception to the release of the reimbursement of the outstanding escrow from the remaining performance guarantee in the amount \$12,183.75 dating back to March 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Maser Consulting P.A. recommends the Borough release the remaining Performance Guarantee of \$200,000.00 less the outstanding escrow in the amount of \$12,183.75 or \$187,816.25; and

**WHEREAS**, A condition of the release of the remainder of the Performance Guarantee is the requirement to furnish a two-year Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$696,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, details of this release are stated in a letter dated December 3, 2020 from Borough Engineer, Andrew Hipolit and has been made a part of this resolution; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale that Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable Department is hereby authorized to release the cash performance guarantee for Montvale Development Associates, LLC when the Two Year Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$696,000.00 shall be posted with the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Montvale and a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Antimo A. DelVecchio of Beattie Padavano, LLC Counsellors At Law, 50 Chestnut Ridge Road, Suite 208, Montvale, NJ 07645.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - a roll call was taken  
- all ayes

**BILLS:** Municipal Clerk read the Bill Report.

Motion to pay bills by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Roche - all ayes

**REPORT OF REVENUE:** Municipal Clerk read the Report of Revenue – November

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Council President Arendacs**

**Engineering**

Striping at Mercedes and Grand will be complete this week; removing trees along the Pascack Brook

DPW

Routine daily maintenance continues; salt shed is complete; the DPW is winterizing the fields and are preparing for the winter season.

Construction

Building department is now headed by Chris Gruber; 110 Summit and Toll Brothers are moving along quickly; 78 permits were issued generating \$96,000 in fees; Stephanie Geisler was hired as a technical assistant, she is working out well, as is Bobby Sherrow, as the new Building Inspector; wanted to wish Jeff Fette a happy and healthy retirement and thanked him for his help with the smooth transition in the department.

Buildings and Grounds

New borough signs have been installed; new heating system in the police department has been installed

**Councilmember Koelling**

Police

Monthly report included in original minutes; Congratulations to the two new police hires; PBA negotiations are ongoing

BOH

Working on the vaccine roll out; new guidelines from the State, including outdoor gatherings now up to 25 persons, no indoor sports; Northwest Regional is doing an amazing job along with the BOH;

OEM

Coordinator will work with Bergen County for the vaccinations; looking for nurses to volunteer to help with the vaccinations

**Councilmember Lane**

Fire Dept

Held their election of officers; Geoff Gibbons will remain as Chief, Bruce Hopper will remain as Deputy, Mike Cintineo, Captain Co 1, Rick Alton, Lieutenant #1, and Eric Rizzo, Lieutenant #2; congratulations; 28 fire calls; 2 drills; Santa will be making a visit, this year it will be a little different, instead of being at the center of town, Santa will drive through each street starting at 6pm on Christmas Eve; please exercise social distance and wear a mask.

Finance

The first budget meeting is scheduled on December 29; mentioned that all budget meetings are open to the public

**Councilmember Roche**

Regional BOE

Has been remote learning and hope to reopen on December 14

Environmental Committee

Moving along with the Pascack Trail, a bunch of volunteers where there on Thanksgiving weekend picking up debris, go to the Mayor's Facebook page to view the video;

Chamber of Commerce

Purchased gifts cards to give to volunteers in town

**Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang**

Diversity Committee

Elizabeth Gloeggler spoke regarding the Rangoli contest, had over 30 submissions; 1<sup>st</sup> place – Prasanna & Kiran Family; 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Romano Family

BOE

Met with the BOE regarding installation of bathrooms at Fieldstone, will have follow up meetings

**MAYOR**

Update on COVID, we currently have 50 residents with active COVID, total 155 positives; vaccines will be here soon; thanked the Fire Department for decorating the center of town; will be lighting the Menorah, on Monday, December 14 at 6PM; will be in discussions with Chestnut Ridge, NY regarding the development on Schoolhouse Road.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andrew Hipolit

Report/Update

Mercedes Drive development, will be improving the crosswalks entering Wegmans and the intersection between Grand Ave and Mercedes; Update on PSEG gas main repairs, they will come back in the spring to pave the roads.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:**

Joe Voytus, Esq.

Report/Update

No report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**COMMUNICATION CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

**HEARING OF CITIZENS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

Upon recognition by the Mayor, the person shall proceed to the floor and give his/her name and address in an audible tone of voice for the records. Unless further time is granted by the Council, he/she shall limit his/her statement to five (5) minutes. Statements shall be addressed to the Council as a body and not to any member thereof. No person, other than the person having the floor, shall be permitted to enter into any discussion, without recognition by the Mayor.

Motion to open meeting to the public by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling  
- all ayes

Jarret Schumacher

Question regarding the budget process, last year the public was given documents to follow along, what is the process for this year being that it is virtual; asked for some clarifications regarding the ordinances; for 2020-1491, loss of revenue, we are asking for \$320,000 in lost revenue, what revenue? Councilmember Lane explained that it is a provision that is allowed for this year to bank some money in response to COVID preparedness and it allows us to spread it out for multiple years; we loss a couple hundred thousand in hotel tax revenue; Ord 2020-1492, it states January 2020, will this be retroactive, the clerk stated that this ordinance is for 2021 and that it is amending the ordinance of 2020; 2020-1493, is there an amount that this ordinance will set as a Payment in Lieu of Taxes, the borough attorney stated that there is a standard rate of 6.2% of the gross revenue which changes from year to year

Motion to close meeting to the public by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling  
- all ayes

**MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn Public Meeting by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling  
- all ayes

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The next Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held December 29, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.  
2021 Budget Meeting 6:00 p.m. December 29, 2020

**Respectfully submitted, Fran Scordo, Deputy Municipal Clerk**