

**PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES**

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held virtually by Zoom and also held in Council Chambers and called to order at 7:33PM. Adequate notification was published in the official newspaper of the Borough of Montvale. Master Sergeant Dieter Koelling led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and roll call was taken.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to The Bergen Record 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 - on Zoom
Councilmember Curry - absent
Councilmember Koelling

Councilmember Lane – on Zoom
Councilmember Roche
Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang - absent

ORDINANCES:

None

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

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

No Public Comment

Motion to close meeting to the public by Councilmember Koelling; seconded by Councilmember Roche – all ayes

MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

MINUTES:

None

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE MINUTES:**June 29, 2021**

A motion to accept closed session minutes by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Roche – 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.

124-2021 A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety SFY21 Body-Worn Camera Grant Program and Accepting an Award Pursuant to Said Program

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale did previously submit a grant application for the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety's SFY21 Body-Worn Camera Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Borough did receive an award number 21-BWC-281 dated 7/2/2021 pursuant to said program in the amount of \$30,570.00; and

WHEREAS, said award is not a matching grant and does not require a separate expenditure of funds by the Borough above and beyond the grant funds received; and

WHEREAS, the period of said grant is January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale is authorized to accept said grant award and does accept such award; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is accepting the grant funds in the amount of \$30,570.00 for the specific purposes set forth in the Borough's application and the award, which includes funds for the purpose of purchasing more body-worn cameras for the Borough of Montvale Police Department, in accordance with the Attorney General's directives implementing the Body-Worn Camera program for police departments in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough agrees to abide by all terms and conditions of the grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby directed, authorized and empowered to execute the grant agreement with the State of New Jersey concerning grant award 21-BWC-281 and to execute all other documents necessary to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this resolution.
2. The Chief of Police is hereby directed to assist the Mayor and Borough Clerk in providing all documents and otherwise complying with the terms and conditions of the grant award.
3. All other Borough officials, officers and employees are hereby directed, authorized and empowered to take all steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this resolution.

125-2021 A Resolution of the Borough of Montvale Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education Concerning the Hiring and Placement of Special Police Officer IIIs at Pascack Hills High School

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has created a new class of Special Police Officers known as Special Police Officer III (SLEOIII) specifically and solely for the purpose of school security as outlined in NJSA 40A:14-146.10, 40A:14-146.11, 40A:14-146.14, and 40A:14-146.16; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale (the "Borough") and the Pascack Valley Regional School District (the "District") Board of Education (the "Board") agree that having security personnel that are police officers and specifically trained for school security is a best practice for the safety and security of the students and staff at Pascack Hills High School; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Board agree that school security is of the utmost importance to create a safe learning environment for students; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Board desire to enter into an agreement concerning the hiring by the Borough and placement of SLEO IIIs in Pascack Hills High School; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Board have negotiated an agreement concerning same that is acceptable to the Chief of Police, a copy of which is on file with the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the agreement entitled "AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE HIRING AND PLACEMENT OF SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER IIS IN PASCACK HILLS HIGH SCHOOL BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE AND PASCACK VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" is hereby approved, and the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute same in substantially the form negotiated, subject to approval as to form by the Borough Attorney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Borough Clerk, and all other appropriate officials are hereby authorized and empowered to take all steps necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

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

126-2021 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Certain Quitclaim Deeds to Effectuate the Road Vacation Previously Approved by the Borough of Montvale Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2003-1197

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale did previously adopt Ordinance No. 2003-1197 entitled, "An Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of West Drive, More Particularly Referred to on Schedule A Annexed Hereto"; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance was intended to extinguish all public rights in the specified area, subject to the reservation of a perpetual sanitary sewer easement for subsurface sanitary sewer line extensions for the purpose of construction of a below-ground sanitary sewer line and manholes which are part of the Borough of Montvale sanitary sewer facility; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Borough that the adjacent property owners' deeds and property record cards to not reflect the road vacation; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design has prepared surveys and metes and bound descriptions for each separate parcel that reverted to the adjacent property owners; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the property owners to whom the vacated property reverted have accurate property descriptions and chain of title, the Borough of Montvale is desirous of executing quitclaim deeds to each of the said owners, which shall only reserve to the Borough the sanitary sewer easement previously referenced in Ordinance No. 2003-1197; and

WHEREAS, the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(3) allows a municipality to adopt a resolution to convey certain real property "when it has or shall have conveyed its right, title and interest in any real property...not needed for public use, and it was assumed and intended that there should be conveyed a good and sufficient title in fee simple to said real property...free of all encumbrances...and it shall thereafter appear that the title conveyed was insufficient"; and

WHEREAS, it was previously intended that the portions of West Drive that were vacated by virtue of Ordinance No. 2003-1197 were to be conveyed to the owners of the adjacent parcels, but this conveyance has not been effectuated, necessitating the Borough adopting this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby directed, authorized and empowered to execute the necessary quitclaim deeds prepared by the Borough Attorney's office to effectuate the transfer of the vacated portion of West Drive under Ordinance No. 2003-1197 to the adjacent property owners.
2. All other Borough officials, officers and employees are hereby directed, authorized and empowered to take all steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes and provisions of this resolution and Ordinance No. 2003-1197.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

The borough attorney gave a brief explanation stating that when the road vacation of West Drive was done in 2003, the borough did not file the quick claim deeds to show that the resident involve own that portion of the property

BILLS: Municipal Clerk read the Bill Report.

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council President Lane

Fire Dept

30 fire calls;

Diversity Committee

Will have a complete report next month

Councilmember Roche

Chamber of Commerce

Street Fair is scheduled for October 17;

Special Events/Recreation

Day in the Park is scheduled on August 28 from 5:30-9:30, food trucks, live music and fireworks, rain date will be August 29;

Pickle Ball badges are now available at borough hall

Summer Camp will end July 23rd.

Councilmember Koelling

Police

Monthly report included in original minutes; reminder to lock your cars and do not leave your key fob in the car.

Veteran Affairs Committee

Looking for volunteers

Councilmember Arendacs

Engineering

Mercedes Drive paving is complete; bocce ball courts will be completed by September

DPW

Busy with the last two storms, working hard picking up about 75% of the debris and cleaning out catch basins; Will start street sweeping next week;

Reminder, this Friday will be picking up yard debris

Will join Councilmember Koelling with the Veterans Committee

MAYOR

Had town hall meeting with Suez regarding the water tanks; there were some concerns raised and Suez will get back to the Mayor with answers; would like to give a big shout out to all the first responders and DPW regarding the recent storms. A few Japanese companies will be moving into town. Councilmembers Koelling, Lane and Russo-Vogelsang along with the Mayor will be meeting with the Japanese Ambassador on July 26. Mayor Ghassali contacted Elizabeth Gloeggler to inform her that he will not re-instate her to the Diversity Committee. The committee will be looking for a replacement.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andrew Hipolit
Report/Update
No Report

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 Koelling; seconded by Councilmember Roche - all ayes

No Public Comment

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

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm

Next Meeting of the Mayor & Council will be on July 27, 2021 at 7:30pm in person only.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Scordo, Deputy Municipal Clerk