## **OCTOBER 13, 2016**

# PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers and called to order at 7:42PM. Adequate notification was published in the official newspaper of the Borough of Montvale. Master Sergeant 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 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; Administrator/Municipal Clerk, Maureen Iarossi-Alwan; and Deputy Municipal Clerk, Fran Scordo

#### **ROLL CALL:**

Councilmember Curry - absent Councilmember Lane

Councilmember Koelling Councilmember Talarico - absent

Councilmember LaMonica Councilmember Weaver

#### GET TO KNOW OUR MONTVALE CORPORATES PRESENTATION SERIES:

Jeff Thomson President CEO of Institute of Management Accountants / 10 Paragon Drive Scheduling conflict – will come at a later date

## Kenneth Sesholtz/Certified Municipal Finance Officer

Review/State of NJ Dept. of Community Affairs/Best Practices CY2016/SFY2017 Out of 30 questions, the borough has 26 positive answers and will most likely receive state aid

#### The Annual Hills Valley Coalition 2016-2017 Report

Gale Mangold

#### **ORDINANCES:**

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO.2016-1420 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1417 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

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1417 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 BE IT ORDAINED BY the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Each of the offices and positions of employment hereinafter named that are not established or created by virtue of any statutes or of any ordinance, resolution, or other lawful authority heretofore exercised by the Borough of Montvale, is hereby established, created, ratified and confirmed.

**SECTION 2.** The rate of compensation of the persons holding any of the hereinafter named offices and positions of employment whose compensation shall be on an annual basis and shall be payable semi-monthly is hereby fixed and determined to be as set opposite the title of each of the hereinafter named offices and positions of employment.

	Title	2016 Salary	Ran	ige
1.	Borough Administrator (PT)	\$40,000	-	50,000
2.	Safety Director	\$1,000	-	1,200
3.	Chief Financial Officer (PT)	\$15,000	-	25,000
4.	Municipal Clerk (PT)	\$70,000	-	92,000
5.	Deputy Municipal Clerk (PT)	\$38,000	-	47,000
6.	Floater/ Admin. Assistant to Administrator	\$35,000	-	45,000
7.	Tax Collector (PT)	\$53,000	-	63,000
8.	Tax Assessor	\$32,000	-	38,000
9.	Treasurer	\$75,000	-	85,000
10.	Accountant/Purchasing Agent	\$57,000	-	67,000
11.	Accounts Payable Clerk (PT)	\$20	-	\$28/hour
12.	Accounts Payable Clerk (FT)	\$43,000	-	50,000
13.	Secretary, Planning Board (PT)	\$70,000	-	82,000
14.	Planning Board Secretary Special Meetings	\$45	-	\$70/hour
15.	Board Secretary, Clerical/Recording	\$115	-	135
16.	Office Manager (PT)	\$4,000	-	7,000
17.	Registrar Vital Statistics	\$800	-	1,200
18.	Deputy Registrar Vital Statistics	\$250	-	500
19.	Construction Code Official	\$35,000	-	50,000
20.	Building Sub Code Official	\$35,000	-	50,000
21.	Building Inspector	\$25	-	\$50/hour
22.	Zoning Officer	\$8,000	-	10,000
23.	Property Maintenance Officer	\$2,900	-	5,000
24.	Construction Dept. Control Person	\$50,000	-	60,000
25.	Plumbing Sub Code Official	\$ 22,000	-	27,000
26.	Plumbing Inspector	\$25	-	\$50/hour
27.	Fire Sub Code Official	\$13,000	-	17,000
28.	Fire Sub Code Official special inspections	\$25	-	\$50/hour
29.	Electrical Sub Code Official	\$32,000	-	42,000
30.	Electrical Sub Code Official special inspections	\$25	-	\$50/hour

## **BOROUGH OF MONTVALE**

**OCTOBER 13, 2016** 

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31.	Fire Prevention Official	\$10,000	-	15,000
32.	Fire Inspector/Sr. Fire Inspector	\$6,000	-	10,000
33.	Municipal Court Administrator	\$64,000	-	75,000
34.	Deputy Municipal Court Administrator	\$38,000	-	46,000
35.	Court Security	\$18	-	\$25/hour
36.	Violations Clerk (PT)	\$15	-	\$25/hour
37.	Police Secretary	\$35,000	-	45,000
38.	Administrative Assistant for Police Chief	\$40,000	-	52,000
39.	Administrative Assistant for Mayor / Floater (PT)	\$15	-	\$25/hour
40.	Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator	\$2,000	-	3,300
41.	Library Director	\$80,000	-	95,000
42.	Library – Youth Services Coordinator	\$40,000	-	55,000
43.	Library (PT)	\$13	-	\$45/hour
44.	Library (PT) meetings	\$120	-	\$200/mtg
45.	Facilities Building & Property Inspector	\$25,000	-	29,000
46.	Field Coordinator	\$5,000	-	6,000
47.	Director, Public Assistance	\$5,000	-	7,000
48.	Director of Recreation	\$23,000	-	30,000
49.	Dir. Of Recreation – Summer Stipend	\$5,500	-	8,000
50.	Van Drivers (PT)	\$17	-	\$21/hour
51.	Station Technicians (PT)	\$15	-	\$17/hour
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**SECTION 3.** The rate of compensation of the persons holding any of the hereinafter named offices, whose compensation shall be on an annual basis and payable semi-monthly, is hereby fixed and determined as follows:

Title 2016 Salary Range				
A.	Municipal Judge	\$25,000	-	40,000
В.	Mayor	\$6,990	-	10,000
C.	Councilpersons (each)	\$5,689	-	8,000

**SECTION 4**: The rate of compensation of persons holding any of the hereinafter named offices in the Police Department, whose compensation shall be on an annual basis, and payable semi-monthly, is hereby fixed and determined as follows:

Title 2016 \$		6 Salary Range	
A.	Chief	\$170,000 -	210,000
B.	Captain	\$150,000 -	185,000
C.	Lieutenant (Base Wage)	\$120,019 -	147,032
D.	Sergeants (Base Wage)	\$111,685 -	136,822
E.	Detective – Additional per year	\$2,100 -	
F.	Juvenile Officer – Addt'l per year	\$400 -	
G.	Asst. Juvenile Officer – Addt'l per year	\$350 -	
H.	Special/Auxiliary Police	\$18/hour -	\$23/hour
l.	School Cross Guard/Police Matrons	\$18/hour -	\$23/hour

**SECTION 4A:** The rate of compensation of persons holding any of the hereinafter named offices in the Police Department, hired BEFORE January 1, 2005, whose compensation shall be on an annual basis, and payable semi-monthly, is fixed and determined as follows:

Police Officers Schedule (Base Wage Each) Per Contract hired BEFORE January 1, 2005			
0-6 months	\$34,027	-	41,685
6 months – 1 year	\$44,235	-	54,191
1 – 2 years	\$54,446	-	66,700
2 – 3 years	\$64,655	-	79,207
3 – 4 years	\$74,862	-	91,711
4 – 5 years	\$85,070	-	104,217
5 – 6 years	\$95,277	-	116,721
6 – 7 years	\$103,232	-	126,467

**SECTION 4B:** The rate of compensation of persons holding any of the hereinafter named offices in the Police Department, hired AFTER January 1, 2005, whose compensation shall be on an annual basis, and payable semi-monthly, is fixed and determined as follows:

Police Officers Schedule (Base Wage Each) Per Contract hired AFTER January 1, 2005			
0-6 months	\$34,027 -	41,685	
6 months – 1 year	\$38,971 -	47,742	
1 – 2 years	\$43,914 -	53,798	
2 – 3 years	\$53,800 -	65,909	
3 – 4 years	\$63,687 -	78,021	
4 – 5 years	\$73,573 -	90,132	

#### **BOROUGH OF MONTVALE**

**OCTOBER 13, 2016** 

5 – 6 years	\$83,459 -	102,243
6 – 7 years	\$93,346 -	114,356
7 – 8 years	\$103,232 -	126,467

**SECTION 4C:** In addition to the compensation stated above, Full Time Employees in Section 4, Categories "C", "D", Sections 4A and 4B shall be paid an annual longevity increment pursuant to the following schedule:

Years of Service	Officers Hired BEFORE January 1, 2006	Officers Hired AFTER January 1, 2006
After four (4) years	1%	-
After six (6) years	2%	-
After eight (8) years	3%	1%
After ten (10) years	4%	2%
After twelve (12) years	5%	3%
After fourteen (14) years	6%	4%
After sixteen (16) years	7%	5%
After eighteen (18) years	8%	6%
After twenty (20) years	-	7%
After twenty-two (22) years	-	8%
After twenty-three (23) years	9%	9%

**SECTION 5.** The Borough Treasurer shall present semi-monthly or as established by Resolution to the Governing Body for approval warrants drawn to the order of the Borough of Montvale Payroll Account and the Borough of Montvale Salary Account.

At the first meeting of the Governing Body in January of each year, there shall be approved accounts to be designated "The Borough of Montvale Payroll Account" and "The Borough of Montvale Salary Account" and from time to time the Borough Treasurer upon receipt of a warrant for the amount due each Payroll, shall deposit the same to the credit of these accounts, charging the appropriate budgetary accounts therewith. The Borough Treasurer shall thereafter draw checks on said accounts to the employees entitled to payment therefrom.

Any employee hired under the terms of a Special Library Grants, salary will be determined by the Authority making such grant.

The Mayor and Borough Council may by adoption of a resolution and by approved payroll advice, increase compensation (base wage adjustment or one-time merit/bonus increase) of any salaried employee in the above schedule, who has reached their maximum, up to 10% above the pay range maximum.

At each regular meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Montvale, the Treasurer shall submit for the approval or ratification as the case may be, the necessary payroll amounts due to the several officers and employees for compensation.

Such officers as may be determined by the Governing Body, as established by resolution, shall be authorized to sign warrants drawn in favor of the Payroll Account, upon due notice that the payrolls have been approved by the proper certifying authorities.

**SECTION 6.** This ordinance shall be operative as of January 1, 2016, and salaries paid shall be adjusted in accordance with the terms of this ordinance.

**SECTION 7.** All other ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby appealed. **SECTION 8.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication in the manner provided by Law.

Ordinance No. **2016-1420** was introduced for second reading by Councilmember Weaver; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title 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 Koelling - all ayes

Motion to adopt on Second and Final Reading in Ridgewood News by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling; Clerk read by title only ----- A roll call vote was taken --- all ayes

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO.2016-1421 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE BOROUGH CODE TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 65, "MUNICIPAL PROPERTY," TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE USE OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED BY THE BOROUGH INCLUDING THE MONTVALE TRAIN STATION

**WHEREAS**, the Montvale Train Station (the "Station") located on West Grand Avenue between Railroad Avenue and Kinderkamack Road serves individuals utilizing the Pascack Valley Line operated by New Jersey Transit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Montvale Train Station and the property upon which it is located are owned by New Jersey Transit but have been leased to the Borough of Montvale continuously for at least the last thirty-three years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lease Agreement between the Borough of Montvale and New Jersey Transit Corporation dated September 20, 1983 (the "Lease") is currently in effect on a month-to-month basis; and

**WHEREAS**, said Lease grants to the Borough the right to control, *inter alia*, the "maintenance, removal graffiti, minor repairs, [and] security" of the Station; and

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Borough that a number of individuals have been utilizing the station building overnight, including for sleeping and hygiene-related purposes unrelated to the New Jersey Transit line; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the public, it is necessary and desirable to establish certain regulations concerning the hours of operation and permitted use of the Montvale Train Station in order to best serve the public and the ticketed passengers on the Pascack Valley Line of New Jersey Transit; and

**WHEREAS**, Borough officials have discussed this matter with a representative for New Jersey Transit, who has confirmed that New Jersey Transit takes no exception to the Borough taking certain steps to ensure the security of the building and the ticketed passengers utilizing same as permitted by the Lease.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>. The Code of the Borough of Montvale is hereby amended and supplemented by adding a new Chapter 65, entitled "Municipal Property," including a new Article I, "Montvale Train Station," as follows:

## **Chapter 65: Municipal Property**

# Article I Montvale Train Station

- §65-1 Identification of Property.
- §65-2 Hours of operation.
- §65-3 Miscellaneous regulations.
- §65-4 Enforcement.
- §65-5 Violations and penalties.
- §65-1 Identification of Property.

The Property sought to be regulated by this Article is the Montvale Train Station, which is located on Grand Avenue between Railroad Avenue and Kinderkamack Road. The Property is triangular in shape, being located at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Grand Avenue in the Borough of Montvale. The Property is identified as Block 1605, Lot 1 on the official Tax Map of the Borough.

## §65-2 Hours of operation; permitted use.

- A. <u>Hours of operation</u>. The station building shall remain open at all times except during the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., when the building shall be closed. No one shall be permitted inside the building during the hours when the building is closed. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prohibit the police, department of public works or other municipal employees from temporarily closing the station building at any other time when deemed in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- B. <u>Permitted use</u>. During the hours in which the station building is open, the use of the station building is limited to ticketed passengers within two hours of their intended train. No person who intentionally misses the train shall be permitted to remain in the station building.

#### §65-3 Miscellaneous regulations.

- A. The parking lot on the Property shall remain open at all times, subject to the parking restrictions currently in place.
- B. The Montvale Police Department shall be empowered to take all appropriate security measures deemed necessary to ensure the safety and security of the public at the Montvale Train Station, which may include the placement of security cameras in, on, or near the station building.

#### §65-4 Enforcement.

The Borough of Montvale Police Department shall be primarily responsible for opening and locking the building on the Property, subject to assistance as necessary by the Department of Public Works serving the Borough.

#### §65-5 Violations and penalties.

Violations of this Article shall be punished as set forth in Chapter 1, Article II, General Penalty. **Section 2**. Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

## **OCTOBER 13, 2016**

## Section 3. Savings Clause.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed pursuant to this Ordinance, nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Ordinance.

## **Section 4.** Severability.

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

### Section 5. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption and publication as required by law.

Ordinance No. **2016-1421** was introduced for second reading by Councilmember Weaver; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title 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 Koelling - all ayes

Motion to adopt on Second and Final Reading in Ridgewood News by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling; Clerk read by title only ----- A roll call vote was taken --- all ayes

#### **MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

Agenda Items Only

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

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

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

### **MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC:**

Agenda Items Only

#### **MINUTES:**

#### September 27, 2016

A motion to accept minutes by Councilmember Koelling; seconded by Councilmember Lane – all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Weaver abstaining

## **MINUTES CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

## September 13, 2016

A motion to accept minutes by Councilmember Koelling; seconded by Councilmember Weaver – all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Lane abstaining

#### September 27, 2016

A motion to accept minutes by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember LaMonica – all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Weaver abstaining

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

## 161-2016 Authorize Tax Court Settlement / 28 Chestnut Ridge LLC / Block 3101; Lot 4

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale have been advised of the proposed settlement of a property Tax Appeal filed by 28 Chestnut Ridge, LLC (hereinafter the "Tax Appeal"), under Docket Numbers 005982-2014, 001251-2015 and 004286-2016, and;

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid tax appeal involves a gas station property located at 28 Chestnut Ridge Road, and is otherwise referred to as Block 3101 Lot 4 on the tax assessment map of the Borough (hereinafter the "subject property"), and;

**WHEREAS**, the said Governing Body has been advised as to the merits of the subject Tax Appeal by legal counsel, the Borough Tax Assessor and the Borough Appraiser, and;

**WHEREAS**, the terms of the proposed settlement are set forth in the attached Schedule "A" included herein, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Borough of Montvale to settle the subject Tax Appeal in accordance with the settlement proposal set forth hereinabove.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, that the settlement of the aforesaid Tax Appeal be hereby approved, in accordance with the terms set forth in the attached Schedule "A". and:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that with respect to same, the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Tax Appeal Attorney and/or any other appropriate Borough official is hereby authorized to perform any act necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth in this Resolution.

### **SCHEDULE "A"**

A. The terms of the aforesaid tax appeal settlement shall consist as follows:

2014 Appeal: Withdrawn 2015 Appeal: \$1,090,000 2016 Appeal: \$1,090,000

B. The provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:51A-8 (the "Freeze Act") shall be applicable to the terms of this settlement.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes

# 162-2016 A Resolution Establishing a Policy Concerning Notification of Certain Matters Pertaining to Tax Appeals

**WHEREAS**, active monitoring of a municipality's ratable base is fundamental to helping ensure fiscal stability; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Montvale is desirous of establishing a written policy requiring yearly notification by the Tax Assessor to the Chief Financial Officer and the Governing Body of all filed tax appeals no later than June 1 of each year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following policy is hereby established concerning the filing and reporting of tax appeals:

- 1) No later than June 1 of each calendar year, the Tax Assessor shall issue a written report to the Borough Administrator, Chief Financial Officer and the Governing Body of all tax appeals to both the Bergen County Tax Board as well as the State Tax Court of New Jersey that were filed by April 1 of each calendar year (the "Tax Appeal Report").
- 2) The Tax Assessor shall amend the Tax Appeal Report with any cases where any judgment issued by the Bergen County Tax Board is subsequently appealed to the State Tax Court of New Jersey (Petitioners have 45 days to file to the State Tax Court once a judgment is received from the County Tax Board). The Tax Assessor shall issue this amended report within thirty (30) days of receiving a complaint from the appellant.

#### **OCTOBER 13, 2016**

3) The Tax Assessor shall amend the most current Tax Appeal Report with any tax appeals filed to either the Bergen County Tax Board or to the State Tax Court of New Jersey as a result of an added assessment valuation. The Tax Assessor shall issue this amended report within thirty (30) days of receiving a complaint from the appellant.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the Tax Assessor, Borough Administrator and Chief Financial Officer.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes Mr. Voytus clarified that this resolution is a result of the best practices checklist required by the state

# 163-2016 A Resolution Awarding a Professional Services Contract to Raymond R. Wiss, Esq. In Connection With a Personnel Matter

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body has been advised by the Borough Attorney that there exists a need to hire special labor counsel in connection with a police personnel matter; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has received a proposal from Raymond R. Wiss, Esq. to perform all services necessary and appropriate in connection with same; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wiss's proposal sets forth an hourly rate that is the same as the municipal attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body is satisfied that Mr. Wiss possesses the requisite experience pertaining to such matters; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(i), a professional services contract is exempt from public bidding requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body is desirous of awarding a contract to Mr. Wiss, in an initial amount not to exceed \$5,000 without further authorization of the Governing Body; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough's Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds have been appropriated and are available for this purpose.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that a contract is hereby awarded to Raymond R. Wiss, Esq. to serve as special labor counsel in connection with the pending police personnel matter, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes Councilmember Weaver asked for clarification as to the not to exceed amount

#### 164-2016 Authorize Tennis Program Refunds

**WHEREAS**, a refund is hereby authorize to the following participants due to the tennis classes did not run:

Esther & Boaz Kwon - \$160.00 Siir Acar - \$80.00 Aahana Wadhwa - \$80.00 Carina Recine - \$80.00 Giovanna Springer - \$80.00 Rachel Kim - \$80.00

WHEREAS, the amount of the refunds totaling \$560.00; and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED,** the Borough Treasurer shall receive a copy of this resolution for processing.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes

#### 165-2016 Authorize Tax Court Settlement / CACH Investment, LLC / Block 2401; Lot 2

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale have been advised of the proposed settlement of a property Tax Appeal filed by CACH Investment, LLC (hereinafter the "Tax Appeal"), under Docket Numbers 002394-2015 and 005018-2016, and;

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid tax appeal involves an office building located at 28 W. Grand Avenue, and is otherwise referred to as Block 2401 Lot 2 on the tax assessment map of the Borough (hereinafter the "subject property"), and;

**WHEREAS**, the said Governing Body has been advised as to the merits of the subject Tax Appeal by legal counsel, the Borough Tax Assessor and the Borough Appraiser, and;

**WHEREAS**, the terms of the proposed settlement are set forth in the attached Schedule "A" included herein, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Borough of Montvale to settle the subject Tax Appeal in accordance with the settlement proposal set forth hereinabove.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, that the settlement of the aforesaid Tax Appeal be hereby approved, in accordance with the terms set forth in the attached Schedule "A", and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that with respect to same, the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Tax Appeal Attorney and/or any other appropriate Borough official is hereby authorized to perform any act necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth in this Resolution.

#### **SCHEDULE "A"**

C. The terms of the aforesaid tax appeal settlement shall consist as follows:

2015 Appeal: \$6,100,000 2016 Appeal: \$6,100,000

D. The provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:51A-8 (the "Freeze Act") shall be applicable to the terms of this settlement.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes

# 166-2016 Authorize Hiring / Part Time Temporary Building Inspector / Construction Department / John Peters

**WHEREAS**, the Construction Department desires to hire a temporary part-time employee in the Borough of Montvale in the capacity of Building Inspector; and,

WHEREAS, John Peters has met the qualifications for this position, agrees to the terms and conditions of employment, and has completed a satisfactory background investigation; and NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the above named individual is hereby appointed to the position of Part-time Temporary Building Inspector, effective September 19, 2016.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes

# 167-2016 Authorize Hiring / Part Time Temporary Plumbing Inspector / Construction Department / Piotr Kamecki

**WHEREAS**, the Construction Department desires to hire a temporary part-time employee in the Borough of Montvale in the capacity of Building Inspector; and,

WHEREAS, Piotr Kamecki has met the qualifications for this position, agrees to the terms and conditions of employment, and has completed a satisfactory background investigation; and NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the above named individual is hereby appointed to the position of Part-time Temporary Plumbing Inspector, effective September 14, 2016

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember LaMonica - All ayes

# 168-2016 Authorize Tax Court Settlement / 155 Upper Saddle River Road / Block 102; Lot 1.08 / Annette Gardella

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale have been advised of the proposed settlement of a property tax appeal filed by Annette Gardella (hereinafter the "Tax Appeal"), under Docket Number 013425-2015, and;

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid tax appeal involves a residential property located at 155 Upper Saddle River Road, and is otherwise referred to as Block 102 Lot 1.08 on the tax assessment map of the Borough (hereinafter the "subject property"), and;

**WHEREAS**, the said Governing Body has been advised as to the terms of the proposed tax appeal settlement by legal counsel and the Borough Tax Assessor, and;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed tax appeal settlement will reduce the assessment of the subject property from \$1,381,100 to \$1,215,000, and;

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:51A-8 (the "Freeze Act") shall be applicable to the terms of this settlement, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Borough of Montvale to settle the subject Tax Appeal in accordance with the settlement proposal set forth hereinabove.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, that the settlement of the aforesaid Tax Appeal be hereby approved, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that with respect to same, the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Tax Appeal Attorney and/or any other appropriate Borough official is hereby authorized to perform any act necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth in this Resolution.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember LaMonica - All ayes

# 169-2016 A Resolution Requesting that the County of Bergen Repair and/or Replace the Maagnolia Avenue Bridge

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Engineer has advised the Borough Council that the bridge on Magnolia Avenue located between Woodland Road and Greenbriar Lane is currently in need of repair and/or replacement; and

**WHEREAS**, the maintenance and repair of the bridge are the responsibility of the County of Bergen; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the Borough of Montvale has obtained grants and expended municipal funds in repairing the streets in the proximity of the bridge, including Magnolia Avenue and Woodland Road: and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council is desirous of expressing to the County of Bergen the need for the County to set aside funds in its 2017 budget for the repair and/or replacement of the Magnolia Avenue bridge for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Montvale and the County of Bergen who travel on Magnolia Avenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council does hereby formally request that the County of Bergen set aside sufficient funds in its 2017 budget to repair and/or replace the Magnolia Avenue bridge as soon as possible.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Council does further request that the County of Bergen take all steps necessary to ensure that one lane of the bridge is kept open at all times during repair and/or replacement of the bridge, due to the importance of Magnolia Avenue to the flow of traffic through the Borough.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the County Executive and all members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes Councilmember Weaver mentioned if one lane could be open during construction, Joe Voytus stated an amended resolution will be done to include that one lane should be open during construction

# <u>170-2016 – A Resolution Authorizing the Commencement of Testing Procedures for the Position of Police Officer in the Borough of Montvale</u>

**WHEREAS**, certain development and other changes in the Borough of Montvale may necessitate the hiring of additional officers in the Police Department in the near future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police has requested authorization to commence the hiring process for potential new officers in the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to properly prepare for such situation, it is necessary to promptly commence testing procedures to allow for enough time for the testing, hiring and training of such officers; and **WHEREAS**, the Borough Council is desirous of authorizing the Chief of Police to commence the appropriate testing procedures, with the understanding that no decisions have yet been made as to future staffing levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chief of Police is hereby directed to commence the appropriate testing procedures for the position of police officer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all appropriate officials are hereby authorized and empowered to take all actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all actions previously taken in furtherance of this purpose are hereby ratified.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember LaMonica - All ayes Councilmember Weaver mentioned that the process has already been started, the borough attorney stated it mentions in the resolution that this is to ratify the process

#### **BILLS:**

A motion to pay bills by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - All ayes

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

## **Council President Lane**

#### Fire Dept

The wetdown of the new firetruck was a great event; construction of the firehouse is on going

#### **Councilmember LaMonica**

#### Chamber of Commerce

Street Fair has been re-scheduled for Oct 23rd from 10-5pm:

#### Stigma-Free

Montvale is very fortunate to be part Hills-Valley Coalition; also fortunate to be part of Stigma-free with Park Ridge

## <u>Seniors</u>

Added a book club, few trips have been scheduled

### **Historic Preservation**

United Way will be starting construction soon on school #2

## Councilmember Koelling

Police Report

Included with original minutes

## Councilmember Weaver

#### Regional Board of Ed

Discussions are still ongoing with parents and the school board with regards to busing of students to the high school; it was also mentioned that the School Resource Officer has been pulled from the school to accommodate the police schedule due to officers being out;

### Planning Board

Use permits issued for 136 Summit Ave occupying 10,000 square feet; 50 Chestnut Ridge Road occupying 9,000 square feet; ongoing discussions with Environmental committee regarding the tree ordinance;

#### **MAYOR**

### Report

Street Fair is October 23; Bail Reform Act will take effect January 2017, there is a training session scheduled for October 20 at 7pm at Westwood Borough Hall; the mayor urge councilmembers to attend as this reform act will increase overtime in the police department; Looking for residents that are interested in using a passenger van for up to 20 riders to go to Hoboken; Councilmember LaMonica mentioned that it might not be needed as the train service to Hoboken is up and running; Would like to propose the painting of blue lines representing Police, red lines for Fire and White lines for Tri-boro; these lines will be painted in between the double yellow line on certain roads that will be determined at a later date; this will show support for all emergency responders; attended a Mass at St Joes in honor of the first responders; urge residents to save water, there is a possibility a drought warning might be issued in the coming weeks; Wegmans construction is ongoing;

# **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andrew Hipolit Report/Update No Report

#### ATTORNEY REPORT:

Joe Voytus, Esq. Report/Update No Report

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. <u>Memorial Sloan Kettering / 225 Summit Ave / Request Early Start – Pouring of Concrete</u>
 Councilmembers agreed to allow the early start

## **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 <u>limit his/her statement to five (5) minutes.</u> 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 LaMonica - all ayes

Marina Joukhadarian, Joe Sorrentino and Singleton Beato all spoke in regards to busing and are willing to pay for busing service; 90 families have signed petitions; they are asking for support of the mayor and councilmembers to continue a dialogue with the Board of Education members;

## Jared Shoemacher

Wanted to know an update in regards to the swim club bonds; Councilmember Weaver stated that approximately \$150,000 is outstanding in bond debt and that would probably not be paid back to the members; wanted to know if tax rates can be changed for apartments;

Motion to close meeting to the public by Councilmember LaMonica; 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 9:00pm

The next Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held October 25, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Scordo, Deputy Municipal Clerk