

PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers and called to order at 7:47PM. Adequate notification was published in the official newspaper of the Borough of Montvale. Police Chief Abrams 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; Borough Engineer, Andy Hipolit; Administrator/Municipal Clerk, Maureen Iarossi-Alwan; and Deputy Municipal Clerk, Fran Scordo

ROLL CALL:

Councilmember Curry

Councilmember Gloeggler

Councilmember Koelling

Councilmember LaMonica – left 8:30 due to illness

Councilmember Lane

Councilmember Weaver

Chris Tully from Congressman Josh Gottheimer introduced himself to councilmembers and stated he will be available to speak to residents as well as councilmembers

ORDINANCES:

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2017-1422 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 84 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Abrams – Overview of Police Department documentation provided with original minutes

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

Section 1. Chapter 84 of the Code of the Borough of Montvale is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the underlined text and deleting the [bracketed] text in §84-1, as follows:

§ 84-1. Creation and composition.

- A. Pursuant to the authority granted by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118, the Borough of Montvale hereby establishes a Police Department in and for the Borough of Montvale, New Jersey, to consist of the following positions, and the maximum number of individuals assigned to each respective rank, as follows:

(1) Chief of Police: 1

(2) Captain: 1

(3) Lieutenant: 3 [2]

(4) Sergeant: 5

- (5) Patrol Officers: 17. [15.] See Subsection C. below.
- (6) Auxiliary police officers who may from time to time be appointed and who shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body for a term not to exceed one year, which officers shall not be members of the regular police force but shall nevertheless be under the control and supervision of the Chief of Police: As necessary
- B. This Section shall not be construed as establishing any right on the part of any member or members of the Police Department to appointment to any position within the Department, nor shall it be construed as terminating or interrupting any period of service or tenure of any member of the Montvale Police Department. The existence and continuance of any of the above-specified offices and the number of appointees to each such office shall be determined by the governing body as it may, from time to time, in its sole discretion, deem reasonably necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the Department.
- C. In the event that there is an unfilled vacancy in any of the superior officer positions, the maximum number of patrol officers shall be increased by the number of such vacancies. However, in no event shall the maximum number of officers in the Police Department, including the Chief, Captain, Lieutenants, Sergeants and Patrol Officers, but excluding Auxiliary Police Officers, exceed 26 [23] members.
- D. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale shall be deemed to be the "appropriate authority" for purposes of the Borough Code and N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118.

Section 2. Ratification of Prior Actions; No Interruption in Service.

The Borough does hereby ratify and reconfirm all prior actions concerning hiring and promotion in the Police Department taken prior to the adoption of this Ordinance. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as terminating or interrupting any period of service or tenure of any member of the Montvale Police Department.

Section 3. 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.

Section 4. 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 5. 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 6. Effective Date.

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

Ordinance No. **2017-1422** was introduced for second reading by Councilmember Gloeggler; seconded by Councilmember Lane; Clerk read by title only;

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

Carole Adams

Ask for clarification regarding the School Resource Officer; Chief Abrams responded stating the SRO is there to provide instruction to the students, to be a mentor and as security; due to staffing issues, the SRO is not located in the school at this time; control of the SRO is done by the police department; Ms. Adams asked if the other towns can contribute towards the salary.

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

Motion to adopt on Second and Final Reading in Ridgewood News by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Curry; Clerk read by title only -----

Chief Abrams stated 25 officers would be sufficient for the next 10-15 years; Councilmember Weaver stated that the SRO approximately costs Montvale \$120,000, mentioned each town should contribute towards the SRO;

A roll call vote was taken --- all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Weaver voting No

Chief Abrams briefly mentioned about a burglary in progress when a homeowner came home; the suspect was arrested shortly thereafter.

PVDPW Superintendent, Rich Campanelli / Update

Spoke in regards to snow removal process from start to finish

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-1423 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 128, "ZONING," OF THE BOROUGH CODE IN ORDER TO AMEND CERTAIN ZONING REGULATIONS FOR THE OFFICE-RESEARCH (OR) DISTRICTS IN THE BOROUGH TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION ADOPTED BY THE PLANNING BOARD ON JULY 19, 2016
(Public Hearing 2/28/17)

Darlene Green, Municipal Planner, Explanation/Overview prior to public hearing of 2-28-17

Ms. Green explained, this ordinance would permit uses such as assisted living residences; parking garages and to increase the number of stories from 2 to 3 in certain OR zones;

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

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

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to close meeting to the public by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Curry – all ayes

MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

MINUTES:

January 31, 2017

A motion to accept minutes by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling – all ayes

MINUTES CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION:

January 31, 2017

A motion to accept minutes by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Curry
– all ayes

RESOLUTIONS:**60-2017 A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Site Access Agreement with the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education**

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Regional High School District Board of Education (the “Board”) owns and operates a public school located at 225 W. Grand Avenue, Montvale, New Jersey (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale (the “Borough”) is undertaking a project to make certain roadway and intersection improvements at various locations in the Borough including at Spring Valley Road and Grand Avenue (the “Project”), which will require access to the Board’s Property; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution adopted on January 23, 2017, the Board granted to the Borough the necessary access to the Board’s Property for the sole purpose of undertaking and completing the Project, subject to the approval and execution of a Site Access Agreement by and between the Board and the Borough concerning same; and

WHEREAS, counsel for the Board has provided to the Borough a Site Access Agreement (the “Agreement”) in a form acceptable to the Board, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has reviewed the proposed Agreement, finds it acceptable, and wishes to authorize the execution of same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale that the Mayor, Borough Clerk, and all other appropriate officials are authorized to execute the Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto subject to approval as to form by the Borough Attorney, and to take all other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

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

61-2017 Authorize Payment No. 8/New Montvale Firehouse/Unimak LLC

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale awarded a contract on April 26, 2016 in connection with the New Montvale Firehouse Project; and

WHEREAS, the original contract amount is \$4,449,000.00 via Resolution #82-2016; and

WHEREAS, the Robbie Conley Architect, LLC approved said payment based on the contract as per the documentation transmittal dated January 31, 2017 which is attached to the original of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Payment #8 is hereby authorized in the amount of \$204,912.37 to be issued to Unimak, LLC, 82 Midland Avenue, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663 Franklin Avenue, Suite 170 Nutley, NJ 07110-1209; and

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

Total Contract Amount	\$4,449,000.00 Resolution #82-2016
Payment	\$207,230.80 Resolution 138-2016 Payment #1
Payment	\$125, 696.76 Resolution 144-2016 Payment #2
Payment	\$188,081.60 Resolution 153-2016 Payment #3
Payment	\$219,199.20 Resolution 171-2016 Payment #4
Payment	\$357,836.56 Resolution 180-2016 Payment #5
Change Order #1	\$0 (26 additional days)

Change Order #2	Credit \$23,000.00 (due to reduction heated slab)
Change Order #2 (continued)	Credit #23,000.00 minus \$19,915.15 (Fire Pole)
	Credit amount total \$3,085.00
Balance, Including Retainage	\$3,350,955.08 as of 11/7/16
Balance w/credit Change Order #2	\$3,347,870.08 Reso.188-2016
Payment	\$273,771.34 Resolution 194-2016 Payment #6
Payment	\$156,559.10 Resolution 53-2017 Payment #7
Payment	\$204,912.37 Resolution 61-2017
Total Remaining Balance	\$2,712,627.27

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

62-2017 A Resolution Amending Resolution No. 46-2017 Authorizing & Memorializing Additional Offerings Of Alternative Health Benefit Plans To The Employee Health Benefits Program

WHEREAS, the Borough provides medical benefits to its eligible employees and dependents through its membership in the Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund, hereinafter, the HIF; and

WHEREAS, under the legislative requirements set forth by P.L. 2011 c. 78 (commonly known as Chapter 78), municipalities are encouraged to offer alternate health benefit plans that provide choice to employees afforded such benefits in accordance with the cost contribution requirements set forth by the legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Health Benefits Consultant performed due diligence and obtained pricing on several alternate plan designs developed in conjunction with the HIF that provide alternative methods of benefit delivery at lower cost than the existing PBA plan of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the Health Benefits Consultant met with both Borough Officials and Union Representatives to review the alternate plan designs that include:

Aetna PPO Core-Aetna Open Access POSII

PPO 20/35 Plan- Aetna Health Network Option

EPO 15/25-Aetna Health Network Only

EPO 20/35 Plan – Aetna Health Network Only

HDHP 3000 High Deductible (HSA) Plan-Aetna Open Access POSII

that collectively, provide cost-effective alternative plan designs for consideration by employees looking to contain/reduce their contributions, based upon their personal and family needs

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby endorses and authorizes the offering of the alternate plans for eligible employees to consider in determining the health plan best suited for their needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Borough Benefits Consultant and Borough Administration are hereby authorized to coordinate and memorialize these offerings as a part of the Borough's Employee Health Benefits Program and will request a Special Open Enrollment period within the month of February, 2017 for an effective date of May 1, 2017 or as soon as administratively practical; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Borough CFO, Auditor and PIA Security Programs, Inc., 429 Hackensack Street, P.O. Box 818 Carlstadt, NJ Benefits Consultant to the Borough.

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

BILLS: Municipal Clerk read the Bill Report.

Motion to pay bills by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Curry - All ayes

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council President Curry

Board of Health

CPR class is scheduled for February 16 at the senior center from 6-9pm;

Recreation

All winter programs are up and running and registration is ongoing; Special Events committee are planning an egg coloring event in April; Tennis badges will be available March 1; Summer Camp counsellor applications are now available; Day in the Park is June 17;

Councilmember Gloeggler

Local BOE

Kindergarten registration has begun with 90 children enrolled; MEF held a fundraiser with the Harlem Wizards; Summer Institute will offer a wide variety of classes.

Councilmember Lane

Fire Department

14 calls;

Firehouse Update

Roof steel was delivered and hopefully will be in place soon

Finance

Next budget meeting will be February 28 at 6pm at borough hall and encourages residents to attend; significant expenditures to consider;

Police Commissioner Koelling

Police

Monthly report included in original minutes

Tri-Boro

Montvale logged: 50 calls; 766 miles; 49 hours; 34.2 crew hours

Environmental Commission

A new tree removal form was issued; April 29 will be Montvale Clean-Up day starting at 8:30am; Community Outreach meeting is scheduled on Thursday, February 16 at 5:15pm at borough hall.

Councilmember Weaver

Regional High School Board

Pass the policy on video taping meetings;

Economic Retention

Will be hosting a breakfast on March 2 with several corporations; had a meeting with NJ Transit to move train station, NJT stated the amount of riders does not warrant a multi-million dollar cost to move the station

Planning Board

Use permit issued for 25 Phillips Parkway; Exxon will be changing their signage from “On The Run” to “TigerMart”; conversation regarding the new tree removal form was mentioned with some concerns,

Councilmember Koelling mentioned that the Environmental Commission would like to change some of the wording to the form; it was decided to review the form and make changes, then submit it to council for further review.

MAYOR

Library

Circulation 9,956; 5,236 patron visits; 32 cards issued; Montvale Library ranked 4th in 2016;

Report

Met with several Mayors in Trenton regarding COAH; Wegmans will be hiring 550 employees, already hired 200 employees which are in training; target opening will be in September; Traffic and Road improvement meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16 at 7pm; Sunday, February 19th, the Montvale Free Evangelical Church will be presenting Montvale with a check to be spent by the council to help the community;

Fire Chief Miller and Fire Commissioner Jim Nicol was part of a committee which received a 4 foot steel beam from the World Trade Center; a ceremony committee between Fire, Police and Tri-Boro has been formed to start preparing for 9/11 ceremonies; Mayor Ghassali asked Councilmember Koelling to be part of the ceremony committee.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andrew Hipolit

Report/Update

a. Request Of Residents Bayberry Drive, Dogwood Lane and Bramble Way /Roadway Conditions / Request Consideration Inclusion in the 2017 Road Improvement Program

A resident of Bramble spoke regarding much needed paving, live there for 25 years

b. Fieldstone Field/Turf/Possible Replacement Cost

Majority of the field is 13 years old should budget \$750,000 for replacement; Councilmember Lane suggest possible bonding;

c. Project Updates

Pool demolition is now completed; Woodland Road guardrail, Orange and Rockland agreed to remove the utility poles; generator project has begun.

Councilmember Weaver asked if trees were removed at the pool demolition; will the fence be replaced;

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Joe Voytus, Esq.

Report/Update

No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Weaver mentioned that the State will be releasing the amounts for State Aid which might be less;

COMMUNICATION CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Continuation Of Municipal Budget Meeting Schedule

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 Curry
- all ayes

Carolee Adams

Mentioned that the police department covers the Garden State Parkway service area; Wegmans will be influx of people and the police will be needed; In speaking about snow removal, Ms. Adams told a story of her son at a young age began to shovel his neighbor's property to earn extra money; that teens today should be encourage to do the same plus they can earn a few dollars as well; encouraged councilmembers to get involve with the school funding formula; asked for an update regarding the deer issues, the Mayor responded by saying at this time there is nothing that can be done to eliminate the deer population.

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

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to go into Closed Session by Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Koelling - all ayes

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to move into Executive Session as provided for by Resolution No. 15-2017 adopted on January 2, 2017 and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building:

The Mayor and Council will go into a Closed /Executive Session for the following:
PBA Negotiations

1. PBA Negotiations

Minutes to be disclosed as per the Open Public Meetings Act and Resolution No. 14-2017 matters discussed will be disclosed to the public when such matters are finally determined and there is no reason to prohibit the public disclosure of information relating to such matters.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm

ADJOURNMENT The next Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held February 28, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING: County Road Improvements/Road Widening/February 16th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

FINAL BUDGET MEETING: February 28th 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Scordo, Deputy Municipal Clerk