

PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in Council Chambers and called to order at 7:35PM. 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 Ghassali, Borough Attorney, Dave Lafferty; Administrator, Joe Voytus; and Municipal Clerk, Fran Scordo

ROLL CALL:

Councilmember Arendacs	Councilmember Lane
Councilmember Cudequest	Councilmember Roche - absent
Councilmember Koelling	Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2024-1560 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF NOT MORE THAN \$40,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OF A DOUBLE WALL BRINE TANK

*A motion to Introduce Ordinance **2024-1560** for first reading was made by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang; seconded by Councilmember Cudequest; 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 Cudequest - a roll call was taken – all ayes*

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

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

No Public Comment

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

MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC:

Agenda Items Only

MINUTES:**September 24, 2024**

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

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:**August 8, 2024**

A motion to accept closed session minutes by Councilmember Cudequest; seconded by Councilmember Lane - all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang abstaining

September 12, 2024

A motion to accept closed session minutes by Councilmember Cudequest; seconded by Councilmember Lane - 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.

180-2024 A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Nielson of Morristown Pursuant to State Contract #23-FLEET-34933 for the Purchase of a 2024 Dodge Durango (WDEE75) Pursuit AWD

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale has a need to acquire a 2024 Dodge Durango (WDEE75) Pursuit AWD for use by the Montvale Police Department; and

WHEREAS, this Dodge Durango shall be paid for using excess capital funds and operating funds previously identified for vehicle acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has determined that the most convenient and cost-effective way to procure said vehicle is by State Contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a, and the Borough may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State Contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Borough did solicit a quote from Nielson of Morristown pursuant to State Contract #23-FLEET-34933 for said vehicle in the total amount of \$50,703.05; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is desirous of awarding this contract and purchasing said vehicle from Nielson of Morristown pursuant to the September 25, 2024 Proposal, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Montvale hereby accepts the September 25, 2024 Proposal from Nielson of Morristown, 200 Ridgedale Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960, for the aforementioned vehicle and directs, authorizes and empowers all appropriate officials to execute an agreement and/or purchase order for this contract, subject to all the conditions applicable to State Contract #23-FLEET-34933 and subject to approval by the Borough Attorney.

181-2024 A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Motorola Solutions for One (1) All-Band Portable Radio Pursuant to State Contract #83909 T0109

WHEREAS, the Montvale Police Department has a need to acquire an all-band portable radio to allow communications on additional frequencies with nearby municipalities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.C.A. 5:34-7.29(c), the Borough may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State Contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Borough did solicit a quote from Motorola Solutions, Inc. for this equipment under State Contract #83909 T0109; and

WHEREAS, Motorola submitted a proposal to the Borough, a copy of which is attached hereto, in the total amount of \$8,810.24; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Police Chief has recommended that the Borough award this contract pursuant to the Motorola Proposal; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The Borough of Montvale does approve the attached Quote from Motorola Solutions, Inc., 123 Tice Boulevard, Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey 07677 for One (1) All-Band Portable Radio and related equipment and services for use by the Montvale Police Department.
2. The Mayor, Borough Clerk and/or Borough Administrator are hereby directed, authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with Motorola Solutions, Inc., consistent with this resolution.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

182-2024 Authorize Release of Escrow – McLaren Technical Services – Chestnut Ridge Road, Block 3301 – Lot 2

WHEREAS, McLaren Technical Services has requested release of escrow posted for Chestnut Ridge Road, Block 3301, Lot 2; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer and other Borough professionals take no exception to the release; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale hereby release escrow to McLaren Technical Services, 530 Chestnut Ridge Road, Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 in the amount of \$859.75; and

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

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

183-2024 Award Professional Service Contract to Colliers Engineering & Design for Design & Bidding Services and Grant Administration Services for NJDOT FY2024 – Woodland Road Resurfacing Project

WHEREAS, the Borough of Montvale has deemed it necessary to engage the professional services of an Engineer to provide professional services for NJDOT FY2024 – Woodland Road Resurfacing Project; and

WHEREAS, section N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law, (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) exempts such professional services from competitive bidding; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design, with offices located at 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 has submitted a proposal dated October 8, 2024 to provide the engineering services which are detailed and attached to the original of this resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified funds are available certification hereto attached to the original of this resolution.

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

That the proposal for the scope of engineering services is attached to this resolution which is made part of this resolution shall be awarded to Colliers Engineering & Design.

1. That the following be provided: Design & Bidding Services and Grant Administration Services
2. The cost not to exceed shall be \$66,000.00
3. The Engineer shall be required to submit itemized bills and payment shall be made based upon services rendered. The rates for this work are in accordance with the hourly contractual agreement with the Borough of Montvale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be published in an official newspaper of the Borough of Montvale, be on file, available for public inspection, in the office of the Municipal Clerk, Municipal Complex, 12 DePiero Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645.

Introduced by: Councilmember Lane; seconded by Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang - a roll call was taken - all ayes with the exception of Councilmember Cudequest abstaining

BILLS: Administrator read the Bill Report.

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

REPORT OF REVENUE: Administrator read the Report of Revenue for the month of September

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Cudequest

Board of Health

Held Flu clinic on Saturday, Oct 5th, 42 vaccines were administered; Rabies clinic will be held on Saturday, November 16 at the DPW from 9:30am-11:00am;

Library

59 new cards issued; staff is working on special events for children; adults programs such as knitting, chair yoga and cooking demonstrations to name a few; a number of local artist have reach out to the library staff to have a display of their artwork.

Seniors

Oct 17 celebrating October Fest; Oct 27 – cruise to Canada; Nov 6 – murder mystery trip

Councilmember Lane

Fire Dept

October 24, the Fire department will be celebrating their 100th anniversary; looking at budgetary items for this year's budget

Finance

The budget process is right around the corner

Councilmember Arendacs

Engineering

Report included with original minutes

DPW

Maintaining the fall preparation of machinery

Councilmember Koelling

Police

Monthly report included in original minutes;

Planning Board

Discussed the master plan business development

Councilmember Russo-Vogelsang

Business Development Committee

Oct 29 – presentation – Over Skies (PR firm)

BOE

Fieldstone new mascot; many of the improvements have been completed;

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Re-visiting the no right turn at exit 171 in Woodcliff Lake; there was an agreement made in 1984; affordable housing lawsuit now has 23 committed towns

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No Report

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: David Lafferty, Esq.

No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Joe Voytus

PSEG will be paving W Grand Ave starting Oct 18-23 will be detours in that area; Tree work at senior center and new benches have been installed; Linda Murphy will be attending our closed session meeting on October 29 to go over recommendations of the DPW Shared Service Agreement with River Vale; budget letters will be sent to all department heads tomorrow.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion – Employee Health Benefits

BMED issued new rates with an increase of approximately 14%; council will need to decide to keep the plans and contribution the same as last year; Councilmember Lane stated that currently in the PBA contract it states the borough's contribution to the HD HSA is \$4,000 for single and \$8,000 for family; it is cost effective for the borough to offer this contribution; the recommendation would be to keep the administrative employees the same as the PBA.

184-2024 A Resolution Establishing the Health Benefits Levels for the Borough of Montvale for Plan Year 2025

WHEREAS, the Borough must annually determine the level of health benefits offered to its non-contractual employees, as well as certain aspects of the health benefits offered to contractual employees; and

WHEREAS, the Borough must also determine annually the amount offered to employees who opt out of the Borough's health coverage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough does hereby establish the following health benefits for the year 2025 for all employees.

1. The dental, medical and prescription plans offered to all employees and the premiums therefor shall be as set forth on the attached rate schedule.
2. Employee contributions shall be as follows:
 - a. For those employees who select the HDHP, 10% of the total premium cost
 - b. For those employees who select all other plans, 15% of the total premium cost
3. For those employees who select the HDHP, the Borough shall contribute towards a durable Health Savings Account (HSA) for said employee in the total amount of \$4,000/single, or \$8,000/family.
4. Vision benefits shall be a maximum of \$500 per family as a processed reimbursement.

5. Opt-out payment

- a. For those employees who opt out of all health benefits from the Borough, the employee shall be entitled to a payment of 25% of the net savings to the Borough as a result of such opt-out, capped at a maximum of \$5,000.
- b. For the plan year 2025, the determination of the amount saved by the Borough shall be calculated based on the lowest cost plan offered by the Borough. If an employee was enrolled in a Borough Health Plan the prior year, the opt-out calculation is based on the cost of the plan the employee had been enrolled in.
- c. All employees who opt out must complete and timely submit the opt-out form attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the extent any of the foregoing provisions may conflict with an existing contractual provision, the terms of such contract shall prevail.

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

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 Cudequest; seconded by Councilmember Lane - all ayes

No Public Comment

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

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

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Regular Workshop Meeting of the Mayor & Council to be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday, October 29, 2024

Respectfully submitted, Frances Scordo, Municipal Clerk