

**BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES**

Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held via Zoom and called to order at 6:00pm. 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 informing the public of the time and place according to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

Present: Mayor Ghassali; Administrator, Joe Voytus; Councilmembers, Arendacs, Cudequest, Koelling, Lane, Roche and Russo-Vogelsang; Treasurer, Christine Kalafut; CFO, Matt Cavallo Municipal Clerk, Maureen Iarossi-Alwan and Deputy Clerk, Fran Scordo

○ **Environmental Commission - Bob Hanrahan**

Bob Hanrahan mentioned the importance of finishing the stabilization of Huff Pond. He also added possibly building a new nature trail on the property of Summit Ave. It was mentioned to look into open space grants for the trail. Bob ask for a slight increase of funds for training seminars.

○ **Fire Department - Chief Gibbons**

Chief Gibbons stated that firehouse roof is in need of repair. Andy Hipolit added by saying the entire roof should be replaced. Chief requested the replacement of Turnout Gear which has a 10 year life and radio upgrades. He also requested to purchase a UTV which has firefighting and rescue capability. Chief also asked for an increase of funds for training.

○ **Engineering – Andy Hipolit**

The borough received 2 grants for NJDOT Summit Ave – 2022 and NJDOT Terkuile Road – 2023. Andy added that Valley View pump station is in need of repairs. Suggested to upgrade the pickleball courts as a result of the popularity of the game.

○ **Tax Assessor – Ray Tighe**

Tax appeals are generally in good shape. Revaluation will eventually be required but not this year.

○ **General Administration – Joe Voytus**

Joe mentioned upgrades are needed for administration computers and a server.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

The next Budget Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. – via ZOOM on Monday, January 30th. Link will be provided on Montvale website for this budget meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Scordo, Deputy Municipal Clerk