



MINUTES

Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
7:00 PM

STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

To view the Mayor & Council meeting via livestream, please access the YouTube link which is posted on the Northvale website, www.northvalenj.org. Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at 116 Paris Avenue, Northvale, New Jersey 07647.

Mayor McGuire read the Open Public Meetings Act Notice into the record as follows:

This is a Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale. The date, time and location of this meeting have been advertised in the two official newspapers of the Borough, notice has been posted on the Borough website and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been fulfilled. Please note the fire exits as required by law at public meetings.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor McGuire asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag.

Mayor McGuire welcomed all the students to the meeting. He explained Robert Rules of Order and resolutions and ordinances. He asked each of the students to introduce themselves.

Borough Official

Mayor McGuire
Council President McMorrow
Councilman Bakalian
Councilwoman Fernandez
Councilman Mattessich
Councilman Menafra
Councilman Sokoloski
Borough Attorney Ralph
Borough Engineer Luzuriaga
Chief Ostrow
Municipal Clerk Weston

Student Representative

Daniel Won
Isaac Park
Sofia Watkins
Adrian Scott
Evelyn Fabiano
Amanda Zajdel
Julia Yi
Chloe Park
Giuliana Sposa
Kailey Ernst
Jessica Horton

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call of the Council:

Mayor McGuire	Present	Council President McMorrow	Present
Councilman Bakalian	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilwoman Fernandez	Present	Councilman Menafra	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

Other Officials Present:

Kenneth Ralph, Borough Attorney
Mateo Luzuriaga, Borough Engineer
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

RESURFACING AND RESTRIPIING PARKING LOT AT JOHN L. HOGAN MEMORIAL PARK

Mayor McGuire suspended the regular order of business at this time to entertain the Public Hearing on the Borough's Open Space Application for John L. Hogan Memorial Park improvements which include the resurfacing and restriping of the parking lot to improve pavement conditions, safety, accessibility, and drainage.



Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on the Open Space Application. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Block Party Approval

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the block party application for Laura Fernandez on June 27th, rain date June 28th on Crest Drive from 1-6 pm.
Motion was moved by Councilman Mattessich, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of April 8, 2026. Motion was moved by Councilman Menafra, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Abstain	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE

The following reports are on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office and can be viewed by the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Building Department
- Engineer – Neglia Group
- Fire Prevention
- Grantswriter - Bruno Associates
- Recreation Minutes
- Tax Collector

CORRESPONDENCE

1. DPW Superintendent Contract
(Resolution #2026-87)
2. Assistant Superintendent Contract
(Resolution #2026-88)
3. Northvale Portion Riverside Cooperative Paving
(Resolution #2026-89)
4. Norwood/Northvale Shared Service Agreement
Senior Transportation Service
(Resolution #2026-92)
5. Riverside Cooperative Agreement 2026-2030
(Resolution #2026-93)
6. Neglia Group-Proposal Riverside Coop Road Program
(Resolution #2026-101)

RESOLUTIONS – Consent Agenda –

“All items are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Any item may be removed for further discussion or for a roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business”.

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #2026-84 through 2026-103. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Mattessich



RESOLUTION #2026-84

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A 2026 BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND FOR MUNICIPAL PARK IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“County Trust Fund”), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of outdoor municipal recreation facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$79,671.77 from the County Trust Fund to fund the “Hogan Park Parking Lot Improvements,” including resurfacing and restriping of the parking lot at Hogan Park; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale has reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions, and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale held the required Public Hearing to receive public comments on the proposed park improvements in the application on Wednesday, May 13th, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations, and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale:

1. That it is hereby authorized to submit the above completed project application to the County by the deadline of April 24th, 2026, as established by the County; and,
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Mayor and Council has, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or modify the project as necessary; and,
3. That the Mayor and Council is committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and,
4. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement.
5. That the Mayor and Council agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and,
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION #2026-85

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUMMER HOURS FOR BOROUGH OFFICE EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to authorize summer hours for Borough Office employees; and

WHEREAS, currently, hours for Borough office employees as set forth in the Borough handbook are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with one hour for lunch.



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that from May 26, 2026 through September 7, 2026, the hours for Borough office employees is hereby amended to Monday to Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is a one-hour lunch break on those days, and on Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. with no lunch break on Friday.

RESOLUTION #2026-86

TITLE: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT BRESCIA AS TAX ASSESSOR

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-148 requires every Municipality to provide for the appointment of a Tax Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the current Tax Assessor is being re-appointed to his position; and

WHEREAS, IT IS THE DESIRE OF THE Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale to re-appoint Robert Brescia for the term of office starting on July 1, 2026 which will grant the assessor tenure in his/her position, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-148.

WHEREAS, the assessor will hold public office hours on Wednesdays from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Resolution #2026-86 was duly adopted by the Municipal council at a public meeting held on May 13, 2026 to re-appoint a part time/full time Tax Assessor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, certified copies of said Resolution shall be forwarded to the following:

1. Director, Division of Taxation
2. Administrator, Board of Taxation
3. Administrator of the Municipality
4. Tax Assessor

RESOLUTION #2026-87

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH BRIANT BODRATO FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS FROM JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027 FOR THE POSITION OF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the present contract for Briant Bodrato expired on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and Briant Bodrato have negotiated a new contract for a period of two years retroactive to January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Borough believes this new contract is fair and reasonable and will contribute to the effective and efficient operation of the Northvale Department of Public Works through 2027.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Borough.



RESOLUTION #2026-88

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH WILLIAM GUYT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS FROM JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027 FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the present contract for William Guyt expired on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and William Guyt have negotiated a new contract for a period of two years retroactive to January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Borough believes this new contract is fair and reasonable and will contribute to the effective and efficient operation of the Northvale Department of Public Works through 2027.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Borough.

RESOLUTION #2026-89

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR THE 2026 RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, Northvale, acting as lead agency, administered the bid process for the 2026 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Project (the “Project”) on behalf of the Boroughs of Alpine, Demarest, Dumont, Englewood Cliffs, Harrington Park, Hillsdale, Montvale, New Milford, Northvale, and Tenafly, all municipalities located within the County of Bergen; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2026 sealed bids for the Project were received, opened and read aloud and the Project was subsequently awarded to DLS Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,421,883.17; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale’s portion of the Project is \$93,882.72; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough to pay its portion of the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby approve the payment of \$93,882.72 for the Project.

RESOLUTION #2026-90

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING TOWNSHIP OF HANOVER TO JOIN THE RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale is the Lead Agency for the Riverside Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hanover would like to join the Riverside Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale as Lead Agency agree to allow the Township of Hanover to join the Riverside Cooperative.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Hanover may join the Riverside Cooperative effective immediately.



RESOLUTION #2026-91

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REFUND OF OVERPAID FIRE INSPECTION FEE TO PARIS SQUARE HOA

WHEREAS, an overpayment of a fire inspection fee was made to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the overpayment was from Paris Square HOA for the property located at 4201 Rio Vista Lane; and

WHEREAS, the amount overpaid was determined to be \$110; and

WHEREAS, Chuck Thomas, the Fire Official, has reviewed the matter and confirmed that a refund is warranted.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund in the amount of \$110 to:

Paris Square HOA
210 Broadway
Hillsdale, New Jersey 07642

RESOLUTION #2026-92

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF NORWOOD FOR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale wishes to provide transportation services to senior residents in an efficient and cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale and the Borough of Norwood currently operate a senior transportation van capable of serving residents of both communities; and

WHEREAS, both boroughs wish to combine operations for the benefit of its eligible residents which will be more cost effective than separate operations; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities are authorized to enter into an agreement for the joint operation of these systems pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1; and

WHEREAS, the shared service set forth above will benefit the residents of Northvale.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the shared services agreement on behalf of the Borough.

RESOLUTION #2026-93

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE TO ESTABLISH AND ENTER INTO A JOINT PURCHASING AGREEMENT AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish and enter into a Joint Purchasing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey is desirous of establishing and entering into said agreement; and



WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale has agreed to serve as the Lead Agency for a Joint Purchasing Agreement with local governmental units within the County of Bergen and adjoining counties who may desire to become “Participating Contracting Units”.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section I. The Borough of Northvale is hereby authorized to enter into and execute Joint Purchasing Agreements and act as “Lead Agency”.

Section II. The Borough of Northvale is hereby authorized to enter into separate Joint Purchasing Agreements with the participating governmental units and said agreement shall be deemed a single agreement.

Section III. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

RESOLUTION #2026-94

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale hereinafter referred to as the “Lead Agency” has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of work, materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in the Riverside Cooperative.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on the 13th day of May, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

TITLE

This Resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Borough of Northvale

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 (5), the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency;

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the Borough of Northvale shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40-11-11, et. seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.



RESOLUTION #2026-95

TITLE: RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO REPEAL THE GAS TAX ESCALATOR AND RESTORE ACCOUNTABILITY TO FUEL TAX INCREASES

WHEREAS, the residents of the State of New Jersey and the Borough of Northvale are burdened by one of the highest overall tax structures in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the State of New Jersey enacted legislation restructuring the Transportation Trust Fund and implementing an automatic adjustment mechanism commonly referred to as the “gas tax escalator”; and

WHEREAS, the gas tax escalator permits periodic increases in the motor fuels tax without a direct vote of the New Jersey State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, such automatic increases lack transparency and reduce accountability to taxpayers, who bear the financial burden without corresponding legislative oversight; and

WHEREAS, increases in the motor fuels tax raise the cost of commuting, goods, and services, and place additional financial strain on working families, seniors, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, these increased costs also impact municipal operations, including transportation, public works, and service delivery, thereby placing further pressure on local budgets and, ultimately, property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the **New Jersey Property Taxpayers Coalition** has called for the repeal of the gas tax escalator as part of a broader effort to restore fiscal responsibility and taxpayer protections; and

WHEREAS, local governments have a responsibility to advocate for policies that protect their residents from unnecessary and unaccountable tax increases.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby urges the New Jersey State Legislature and the Governor to:

1. Repeal the gas tax escalator; and
2. Require that any future increases in the motor fuels tax be subject to a direct vote of the Legislature; and
3. Restore transparency and accountability in the taxation process affecting New Jersey residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Senate President, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the members of the New Jersey Legislature representing this district, and all municipalities within Bergen County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be made available to the public and shared with other municipalities as part of a coordinated effort to advocate for meaningful tax reform.

RESOLUTION #2026-96

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FOR A 2025 CHEVROLET TAHOE SUV FOR THE NORTHVALE FIRE DEPARTMENT – STATE CONTRACT 21-FLEET-01485



WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 (c), 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 Governing Body adopted Ordinance #26-07 in order to purchase these goods; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State or Federal contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale intends to enter into a contract with Gentilini Ford through this resolution, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contract, for the purchase of 2025 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV for the Northvale Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Northvale authorizes the purchase of 2025 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV pursuant to all conditions of the State contract at a base cost of \$59,452.96.

RESOLUTION #2026-97

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE BULK ROCK SALT BID

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 ET. SEQ. and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7 et seq., permits the creation of a cooperative pricing system whereby two or more contracting units join together to form a joint purchasing and cooperating pricing system; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside Cooperative was duly formed and created and has designated the Borough of Northvale as the Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside Cooperative intends to solicit bids for the 2026/2027 Bulk Rock Salt bid; and

WHEREAS, the aggregate of said goods and services is anticipated to exceed the current bid threshold and is therefore required to be bid under a formal process pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 et. seq; and

WHEREAS, as the Lead Agency, the Borough of Northvale is responsible for advertising for the receipt of bids for the 2026/2027 Bulk Rock Salt Bid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of Northvale does hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk to advertise for the receipt of bids for the 2026/2027 Bulk Rock Salt Bid.

RESOLUTION #2026-98

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHVALE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR THE LIBRARY'S USE OF THE BOROUGH'S QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale desires to enter into a Shared Service Agreement with the Northvale Public Library for the Library's use of the Borough's Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA); and



WHEREAS, by entering into said agreement, the Northvale Public Library and the Borough of Northvale agree that the shared services agreement for procurement of the construction services will benefit each local unit; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale’s Qualified Purchasing Agent shall be designated to provide services to the Northvale Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the Northvale Public Library has agreed to bear the costs of the purchases or services that the Northvale Public Library wishes to acquire; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., authorizes and empowers local units to enter into this agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that it hereby authorizes the execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the Northvale Public Library for the use by the Northvale Public Library of the Borough’s Qualified Purchasing Agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said Agreement and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

RESOLUTION #2026-99

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL 2026 PRELIMINARY TAXES CHARGED TO A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

WHEREAS, Block 106 Lot 18, 403 ½ Argenti Place was granted Totally Exempt Veteran Status by the United States Veterans Administration and taxes were canceled and a refund was issued for 2025 Taxes in October 8, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Preliminary taxes were on record and should have been cancelled in the resolution.

Assessed To	Property Location	Bl/Lt	Tax
Barry Hirschberg	403 ½ Argenti Place	106/18	\$5,595.83

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the 2026 Preliminary taxes on Block 106 Lot 18 in the amount of \$5,595.83.

RESOLUTION #2026-100

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL THE 2025 AND PRELIMINARY 2026 TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS

WHEREAS, Fred G. Russenberger III is the owner of property in the Borough commonly known as 602 Woodland Avenue, and designated as Block 406, Lot 5 on the Borough Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Russenberger served honorably in the United States Armed Forces and suffered a permanent disability; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Russenberger was declared totally disabled by the United States Veterans Administration on November 3, 2020; and



WHEREAS, Mr. Russenberger made application for tax exempt status to the Northvale Tax Assessor and was granted the cancelation of 2025 4th quarter and 2026 Preliminary Taxes by the Assessor.

Assessed To	Property Location	Bl/Lt	Tax
Fred G Russenberger III	602 Woodland Avenue	406/5	\$3,031.50-2025
			\$5,699.00-2026

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the 2025 4th quarter and Preliminary 2026 taxes on Block 406 Lot 5 in the amount of \$8,730.50.

RESOLUTION #2026-101

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR NEGLIA GROUP – 2026 RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE ROAD PROGRAM – NEA PROJECT NO.: NOVLADM26001

WHEREAS, Neglia Group has prepared a scope of services for the 2026 Riverside Cooperative Road Program as per their letter dated May 8, 2026 as follows:

Construction Management Services (Phase II)	\$12,890.00
Material Basis (Phase III)	\$ 500.00

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer certifies that the funds will be available not to exceed \$13,390.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby approve the Proposal for Construction Management Services and Material Basis for Neglia Group.

RESOLUTION #2026-102

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HONORARY NAMING OF A BOROUGH STREET

WHEREAS, the Jacobsen and Nashlenas families have owned a home on Arrow Street for approximately 30 years, and it is the only home on Arrow Street; and

WHEREAS, family members live in the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the Jacobsen-Nashlenas families have long ties to the community and have made significant contributions to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the families have operated businesses that have served the community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale wishes to honor the Jacobsen-Nashlenas families.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Northvale, in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey, that Arrow Street shall bear the honorary name “Jacobsen-Nashlenas Way.” The Northvale Department of Public Works shall install appropriate signage to designate the said street as “Jacobsen-Nashlenas Way.”



RESOLUTION #2026-103

TITLE: PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, claims have been submitted to the Borough of Northvale in the following amounts under various funds of the borough:

Current Fund Appropriations (2025)	
Current Fund Appropriations (2026)	\$598,587.34
General Capital Fund	66,908.23
Grant Fund	7,196.24
Animal Trust	8.40
Police DEA Trust	5,334.00
Escrow Trust	7,793.16
Affordable Housing Trust	744.30
Recreation Trust	12,486.07
Donation Trust Account	493.99
Unemployment Trust	
Summer Recreation Trust	
SUBTOTAL	\$699,551.73
Current Fund Off Cycle Check	1,671.00
Payroll 9 4/9/2026	191,057.57
Payroll 10 4//26/2026	202,721.62
	\$1,095,001.92

WHEREAS, above claims have been listed and summarized in the Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, finance committee, and/or the chief financial officer; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the funds have been properly appropriated for such purposes and are available in the Borough of Northvale, and that the claims specified on the schedule, following examination and approval by the finance committee, be paid and checks issued; accordingly, and

WHEREAS, claims have already been paid in the following amounts for the purposes specified below during the course of the year:

Northern Valley Regional High School	4/13/26	\$154,992.40
	4/13/26	774,964.00
Health Benefits		
Health Benefits		
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS	3/28/26	884,272
Northvale Board OF Education	4/13/26	995,518.00
Northvale Public Library		
Capital – Inter-fund		
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter		
DTC- Bond Interest		
TOTAL		\$3,904,748.32



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling \$3,904,748.32 are ratified respectively.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments pertaining to Consent Agenda Resolutions only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes**
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**Council President McMorrow abstained from Resolution #2026-100.

ORDINANCE – 1ST READING
Public Hearing – June 10, 2026

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to introduce for first reading Ordinance #26-08. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Fernandez, seconded by Councilman Sokoloski.

ORDINANCE #26-08

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 147 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED “PROPERTY MAINTENANCE”

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale believes it is in the best interest of the Borough to amend and revise Chapter 147 of the Borough Code entitled “Property Maintenance” as set forth herein, by amending Section 147-18 entitled “General sanitation and safety” in order to regulate the location and use of garbage containers..

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

§ 147-18 **General sanitation and safety.**

A.

No person shall throw or deposit litter on any open or vacant property within the borough, whether owned by such a person or not.

B.

Storage bins, rooms and areas shall not be used for the storage of accumulated garbage and rubbish unless:

(1)

Such garbage is stored in appropriate receptacles of metal or other materials approved by the Code Official.

(2)

Such storage bins, rooms and areas are of smooth, easily cleanable construction and are kept in a sanitary condition.

(3)

Such areas, if located outside a building and visible from any public walk, street or public parking area, are shielded by a method approved by the Code Official and constructed in compliance with the applicable provisions of the standard building code of New Jersey or of any building code subsequently adopted by the Borough of Northvale.

C.

(1) Trash cans or barrels shall not be placed on the curb or street sooner than 6:00 p.m. on the evening prior to a trash pick up.

(2) Rubbish and garbage shall be placed or kept on the property within the building located thereon or at a distance greater than from the front face of the building on the property from the property line or from the building setback line to the property line, whichever distance is greater, ~~not nearer to the street in line than the building line or nearer to the street line than the~~



face of the building, whichever distance from the street line is greater, except during any cleanup week proclaimed by the Borough Council or as set forth in § 147-18C(1) above. All household trash cans or barrels shall be removed from the street and/or the sidewalk area by 9:00 p.m. of the evening of trash pickup.

Section 2. This ordinance will take effect immediately upon passage.

Section 3. All prior ordinances that are inconsistent with this ordinance are repealed.

ON THE QUESTION – Councilman Bakalian asked if this is just for garbage cans or does it include recycling bins. Mayor McGuire replied it does include recycling bins.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss at this time.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President McMorrow read by Isaac Park – Police Department activity for the month of April – 723 total events, 169 motor vehicle stops, 90 selective traffic enforcement details, 18 suspicious incident calls, 42 school safety checks.

Ambulance Corps – Total calls for the month of April were 11, 4 to Northvale, 1 to Rockleigh Residential, 3 to Harrington Park, 2 to Closter, 1 to Haworth. The Corps. is in desperate need of EMTs, doctors, nurses, etc. to ride with us. Please email nvac226@gmail.com to help out your community.

Councilman Bakalian read by Sofia Watkins – Planning Board had one meeting in April and we reaffirmed the plans for the 31 unit development on Paris Avenue.

The affordable housing applications for the 5 available units at The Avalino, the multifamily construction on Paris Avenue, are due by May 18th. Anyone interested can visit www.housingquest.com. This application process is being handled by Piazza & Associates.

Building Department issued a total of 22 permits and updated 1 permit in the month of April.

The Gyro Project had their grand opening in the old Moe’s space.

Taco Bell was issued a construction permit for the old Boston Market location.

Building Department fees collected for April were \$19,207 as compared to April 2025 which were \$33,002. The year to date fees collected are \$65,838 which is \$36,576 less than last year.

Councilman Menafra read by Amanda Zajdel – Fire Department statistics for the month of April were 19 emergency calls totaling 59 staff hours. This includes 3 structural fires, 2 hazardous situations, 8 false alarms, and 1 rescue. There were also 6 non-emergency calls totaling 108 staff hours. This includes 1 company drill, 3 training worknights, and 1 fire association meeting.

Fire Prevention statistics for the month of April – 23 initial inspections and 10 reinspections.

Northvale Board of Education – held a regular meeting on April 30th. The Superintendent made the following staffing recommendations which were approved by the board unanimously: Dr. Bertolini will return for a 2nd year as Interim Principal; Mrs. Santos will return as full time Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction for the upcoming school year; Mr. Pinajian and Mrs. Dykstra also presented the 2026-2027 school budget which has been approved by both the Board of Education and Bergen County. Despite a greater than 7% increase in the overall school budget driven primarily by soaring healthcare costs, most Northvale residents will actually see their school taxes decrease slightly due to the townwide tax reassessment which took place at the end of 2025.

Northern Valley Board of Education – the regular meeting was held on April 27th. The Superintendent presented awards to various fall and winter athletic teams including the NVOT girls’ basketball team who won their state sectional title and the NVOT football team who also



won their state sectional title. Mr. Santana also acknowledged the NVOT girls golf team who won their first state sectional title as well as the boys and girls track teams who both won sectional titles at a track meet this past weekend. The Board Administrator Marc Capizzi presented the tentative budget for the 2026-2027 school year which is currently showing a 7.49% increase over last year's budget. Similar to what was reported for Northvale School, the majority of the high school budget increase is due to rapidly increasing healthcare plan costs. The next regular meeting will be Monday, May 18th at NVOT.

Councilman Mattessich read by Evelyn Fabiano – DPW continued lawn maintenance throughout the Borough, including Hogan Park, Veterans Park, and Borough Hall. They also maintain the grounds at Rockleigh Borough, the school and various easements throughout the community. In addition, the DPW planted flowers at the Borough Hall, Hogan Park, and Veterans Park to help beautify these areas. They lined the fields at Hogan Park and Veterans Park for ongoing baseball and softball games and added a new sign at Veterans Park. Solar signs were relocated for the Police Department. They continue with regular maintenance operations, including pothole repairs, brush chipping and appliance pick ups.

Senior Center – on Thursday, May 14th at 11:00 am the 5th Congressional District Services Team will meet with our seniors to provide information and assistance regarding Medicare, Social Security, and Passports. The team will answer questions and help seniors navigate the different varieties of services and resources. On Tuesday, May 19th at 10:00 am, the seniors will hold their monthly breakfast gathering. On Thursday, May 28th, the seniors will participate in a low-impact Zumba class in the exercise room, allowing many of them to take part in the activity. Please note the Senior Center will be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

Golden Age Club – went on a trip today to Li Greci's in Staten Island where everyone enjoyed delicious food, good conversation, and each other's company. It was a wonderful day out for all who attended. The club is also looking forward to another exciting outing in June to the Paper Mill Playhouse to see "West Side Story". The Playhouse is known for its excellent productions and talented performers, so it promises to be a great show. The next meeting will be held on June 3rd. Members are encouraged to come and hear about upcoming events and activities.

Recreation Department – Unfortunately I was unable to attend the meeting last night due to a scheduling conflict. However, here are some highlights from the April meeting: indoor soccer program had another very successful season; baseball and softball continue to see solid participation for both recreation and travel teams; registration for the summer basketball program is off to a strong start and additional sign-ups are anticipated in the coming weeks. Overall, the recreation program remains positive and continues to reflect strong involvement from many young families in the community

Councilwoman Fernandez read by Adrian Scott - The next Library board meeting is on May 27th at 6:30 pm. As of April 1st there are 1,980 registered Northvale Library cardholders. 10 new cards were made in the month of March. You can check out the library's website and calendar for a complete list of all their activities for both adults and children each month.

Beautification - The community garden is officially open for its second season and planting has started. There are still plots available for anyone who is interested. Plots can be shared with friends as well. More information, including application and garden rules, is available on the borough's website.

We are also working on a summer wellness series with Northvale's Club Pilates that will feature outdoor mat classes in front of the garden for all levels. We are hoping to begin these classes in June and will have more details soon.

Preschool - As I mentioned last month, the Northvale Preschool will be hosting their first ever summer camp for 3 weeks this July, and for more information on registration you can reach out to the school directly. The Preschool students are excited to be participating in the Memorial Day parade this month where they will be walking and performing a song at the ceremony.

Northvale's America 250 Events - We have planned a variety of community events and initiatives to celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary. In addition to scheduled events, we are encouraging residents, organizations, businesses, and neighbors to participate in two community service initiatives: Food Pantry 250 – collect 250 items for local food pantries, including canned goods, toiletries, and gift cards.

Community Service 250 – commit to completing 250 hours of community service in an area of your choosing.



Participating groups will be recognized by the Mayor & Council and featured on the Borough website. For more information or to participate, please feel free to email me at Lfernandez@northvalenj.org.

A full list of America 250 events can also be found on the Borough homepage.

Councilman Sokoloski read by Julia Yi - The Board of Health is responsible for various activities related to public health, such as: sanitary inspections of restaurants, food establishments, pet and animal safety, including rabies shots for dogs and cats, licensing, and picking up stray pets for adoption. They also provide health services such as free blood pressure and other medical tests, vaccines, etc. To date this year, the Board has collected \$20,927.00 in fees to support these efforts. The next meeting of the Board of Health will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

Northern Valley Greenway - This organization is spearheading a movement to convert the unused east side freight rail tracks into a walking, biking and recreational trail, which would travel from the New York State line, through Northvale south to Tenafly. While there is nothing new to report, meetings are ongoing with interested parties.

Grants - By researching, requesting, and receiving various grants from County, State and Federal agencies, the Borough can provide many new improvements and initiatives at no additional cost to Northvale taxpayers. These have already included upgrades to our two parks, building improvements to the Senior Center, equipment for our fire fighters and police, and many others.

Grants Pending: \$1,794,627.00

Grants awarded: \$1,988,231.00.

No change since last month.

Safety & Risk Management - this includes all insurance related items. Including liability, property and casualty protection for the Borough activities and our properties such as the Borough Hall, Parks, and Library. This also includes training sessions required for municipal employees to ensure safe work practices.

Mayor McGuire read by Daniel Won - Thank you to Councilwoman McMorro for coordinating the Northvale America 250 store. The first batch of merchandise came in this week in time for Memorial Day. It looks amazing. We will open the store again for Round 2 so that people can receive items before July 4th.

The Memorial Day parade is on Monday, May 25th at 11 am and runs from the school to the American Legion. This year we will unveil a special mural honoring America's 250th anniversary and Northvale's role in that history. A special thank you goes out to Kari Sedano and her students for creating this fabulous piece of artwork.

Last week we hosted the second grade from the Northvale Public School. They were right here in the Council Chambers learning about local government. They went down to the Mayor's office where they got a picture taken sitting at the Mayor's desk and they toured the police department and got to see all of the vehicles outside.

This evening we passed a resolution authorizing Borough Hall summer hours which begin the week of Memorial Day and end on Labor Day weekend. Hours are Monday to Thursday from 8 to 4:30 and Friday from 8 to 1.

Chief Ostrow read by Kailey Ernst – On Wednesday, May 6th, the Northvale Police Department Community Services Unit hosted the Walk and Roll to school with the Police event for the second year. It was very well attended and we appreciate the support of Northvale's parents, students, and school staff. Students walked, rode bicycles and interacted with our Officers to help nurture positive relationships between the Police and the community. We thank everyone who participated with special acknowledgment to our sponsor Jamis Bikes and Lieutenant Alise and Officer Milordo for organizing the event. Our next event will be Pizza with the Police to wrap up the school year. Date to be announced soon.

The 2026 "Click It or Ticket" national seat belt enforcement campaign runs from May 11th through May 31st, with increased law enforcement patrols focusing on Memorial Day weekend to buckle down on violators. This high-visibility, zero-tolerance campaign aims to reduce preventable fatalities, with Officers issuing citations to unbuckled drivers and passengers. The Northvale Police Department and The Orangetown New York Police Department will be joining forces for the Click It or Ticket Border to Border initiative on May 20th from 4 pm to 8



pm. These efforts concentrate on seat belt enforcement on heavily traveled, highly visible state borders. So please be safe and buckle up for safety!

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Ralph read by Chloe Park – working with others on the 2026 Borough’s road improvement program.

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Luzuriaga read by Giuliana Sposa – White Avenue, Willow Ave, and Firenze Street Improvements -Engineer plans are complete and will be scheduling a meeting next week to review the project in detail before we submit to the NJDOT. 2026 Riverside Cooperative Paving Program – Maryann Way, Roosevelt Street, and High Street (from Paris Avenue to White Avenue) will schedule pre-construction meeting with the contractor within the next two weeks.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire thanked Mr. Pinajian, Ms Braun, and Ms. Zwernemann. Mayor McGuire was proud of all the students.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote of the Council:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

Joseph E. McGuire
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frances M. Weston

Frances M. Weston
Municipal Clerk

Approved: June 10, 2026

