



MINUTES
Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Wednesday, July 9, 2025
7:00 PM

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 7:02 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 official Newspapers of the Borough, filed with the Municipal Clerk, 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. He also asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence to remember former DPW Superintendent Edward Keegan who passed away recently. He was the DPW Superintendent for many years in town.

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call:

Mayor McGuire	Present	Councilwoman McMorrow	Present
Councilman Bakalian	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	Councilman Menafra	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

Other Officials Present:

Kenneth Ralph, Borough Attorney
Scott Loverich, Borough Engineer
Joseph Luppino, Chief Financial Officer
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

Mayor McGuire stated that this is the **public hearing for the 2025 Municipal Budget with Amendment**. He opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2025-104. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Councilman Menafra.

RESOLUTION #2025-104

TITLE: ADOPTION OF THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WITH AMENDMENT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statement of revenue and appropriation attached hereto constitute the local budget of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, New Jersey for the year 2025.



Revenue and Appropriation Summaries – Anticipated

Summary of Revenues	2025	2024
1. Surplus	\$700,000.00	\$555,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	1,731,740.08	2,564,032.48
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	295,000	300,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	8,509,585.67	8,018,223.17
b) Addition to Local District School Tax		
c) Minimum Library Tax	431,605.08	375,123.00
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Municipal	8,941,190.75	8,393,346.17
Total General Revenues	\$11,667,930.83	\$11,812,378.65
Summary of Appropriations		
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	\$3,873,600.00	\$3,658,900.00
Other Expenses	5,156,579.16	5,553,671.45
2. Statutory Expenses & Other Appropriations	1,154,881.41	1,125,786.13
3. Capital Improvements	60,000.00	30,000.00
4. Debt Service	982,500.00	932,768.00
5. Deferred Charges	121,916.00	150,916.00
6. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	318,454.26	360,337.08
Total General Appropriations	\$11,667,930.83	\$11,812,378.65

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	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 June 11, 2025 and Special Meeting of June 26, 2025. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	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. Northvale Volunteer Fire Department
Standard Operating Procedures-Firefighter Stipend Program
(Resolution #2025-106)
2. Riverside Cooperative Bid Tabulation
Emergency Water Main and/or Storm and Sanitary Sewer Repairs
(Resolution #2025-110)

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 #2025-105 through 2025-112. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

RESOLUTION #2025-105

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S FY26 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has funds available for road projects through its FY26 Municipal Aid Program; and

WHEREAS, this application would provide funding for improvements to Willow Avenue, White Avenue, and Firenze Avenue within the Borough of Northvale; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of Northvale formally approves the grant application for the above-stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as "MA-2026-Willow Avenue, White Avenue, and Fir-00225" to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Northvale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Northvale, and that their signature constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

RESOLUTION #2025-106

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHVALE FIREFIGHTER STIPEND PROGRAM WHICH ADMINISTERS FUNDING FROM THE FEMA STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT (SAFER)

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale ("the Borough") has been approved for Federal Funding from a SAFER grant issued by the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from this grant will assist the Borough in attracting and maintaining firefighters in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, in order to administer the proceeds from grant, the Borough established a Northvale Fire Department Stipend program; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to approve a revision to the Standard Operating Procedures of the Program in order to increase payments to assist with recruitment and retention beginning on June 30, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Northvale that the revised Standard Operating Procedures of the Northvale Fire Department Stipend Program are hereby approved and adopted by reference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Firefighter Stipend Program shall only be effective for so long as there are funds available from the aforesaid SAFER grant and that the funds for the Northvale Firefighters Stipend Program are approved by the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, or one of its designated divisions or agencies.



RESOLUTION #2025-107

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BERGEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Northvale has entered into a three-year Cooperative Agreement with the County of Bergen as provided under the Interlocal Services Act N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. and Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and

WHEREAS, said Agreement requires that the Municipal Council appoint a representative and alternate and that the Mayor appoint a representative and alternate for the PY 2025-2026 term starting July 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council hereby appoints Mayor Joseph McGuire as its representative and Councilwoman Kara McMorrow as its alternate and that Mayor McGuire hereby appoints Councilman Marty Mattessich as his representative and Councilwoman Laura Fernandez as his alternate to serve on the Community Development Regional Committee for PY2025-2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an original, certified copy of this resolution be immediately emailed to Robert G. Esposito, Director resposito@co.bergen.nj.us **as soon as possible and no later than Thursday, July 31, 2025**.

RESOLUTION #2025-108

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL 2025 ESTIMATED 3RD QUARTER TAX CHARGED TO A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

WHEREAS, Block 403 Lot 3, 602 Gladys Court, Northvale, was sold to Raymond Nelson by Lois Madera in November 2024; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Nelson is a Totally Disabled Veteran and on November 4, 2024 has been granted Tax Exempt Status according to New Jersey Statute 54:4-3.30et seq.; and

WHEREAS, since the property was purchased and granted tax exempt status after the Tax Assessor's book was closed, the taxes will have to be canceled as they come up until the 2026 Preliminary taxes are struck.

<u>Assessed To</u>	<u>Property Location</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Tax</u>
Raymond Nelson	602 Gladys Court	403/3	2025	\$3,789.29 – 3 rd Qtr

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel Estimated 3rd Quarter taxes in the amount of \$3,789.29 for Raymond Nelson a Tax Exempt Veteran.

RESOLUTION #2025-109

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTOPHER MARTONE AS MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy for the position of Municipal Court Judge in the Borough of Northvale, due to the passing of the Honorable Roger A. Hauser; and



WHEREAS, the Mayor is authorized, with the advice and consent of the Council, to appoint a Judge for the unexpired term which ends on December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Martone has served the Borough as Temporary Judge and is capable and experienced to serve as Municipal Court Judge.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that Christopher Martone is hereby appointed as Municipal Court Judge for the Borough of Northvale for the unexpired term that ends on December 31, 2026.

RESOLUTION #2025-110

TITLE: RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR THE EMERGENCY WATER MAIN AND/OR STORM AND SANITARY SEWER REPAIRS ON BEHALF OF THE RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:11-10(1) authorizes contracting units to enter into cooperative pricing agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale has volunteered to act as "Lead Agency" for the purchase of work, materials, and supplies for the Riverside Cooperative ("the Coop") for a two-year term beginning December 1, 2025 and ending on November 30, 2027, with an option by the Coop to extend the term for an additional year; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale received six (6) bids for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, bids were received as set forth on the tabulation marked as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, Conquest Construction Inc. is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder as determined by the lead agency; and

WHEREAS, all six bids are on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northvale Mayor and Municipal Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Master Contract as Lead Agency on behalf of the Riverside Cooperative with Conquest Construction Inc., for a two year term beginning December 1, 2025 and ending on November 30, 2027, with an additional option by the Cooperative to extend the contract for an additional year.

RESOLUTION #2025-111

TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #267 FOR ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH – ON PREMISE RAFFLE – SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

NAME: St. Anthony's Church

ADDRESS: 199 Walnut Street, Northvale, NJ

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 199 Walnut Street, Northvale, NJ

HOURS: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

DATE OF RAFFLE: September 14, 2025

ID #: 353-1-146



RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #267

RESOLUTION #2025-112

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 (2024)	
Current Fund Appropriations (2025)	\$298,438.10
General Capital Fund	949.23
Grant Fund	1,366.60
Animal Trust	3.60
Police DEA Trust	15,472.90
Escrow Trust	3,000.00
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	10,297.26
Donation Trust Account	6,262.69
Summer Recreation Trust	2,509.88
SUBTOTAL	338,300.26
Retro Current Fund (2025)	966.49
	\$ 339,266.75

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		
Payroll – Salaries & Wages	June 5, 2025	\$171,224.63
Payroll- Salaries & Wages	June 20, 2025	195,963.90
Health Benefits		
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment- PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education	June 30, 2025	963,457.08
Northvale Public Library		
Capital – Inter-fund		
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter		
DTC- Bond Interest		
TOTAL		\$1,669,912.36



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$1,669,912.36** are ratified respectively.

ON THE QUESTION – Councilman Menafra asked about the donations under Cho Dae Church on the bills list to the Ambulance Corps and Fire Association. Mayor McGuire explained that Cho Dae gave a donation to be split between the Ambulance Corps and Fire Association.

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

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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

*Councilman Sokoloski voted No on Resolution #2025-109.

ORDINANCE – INTRODUCTION-1ST READING

PUBLIC HEARING – AUGUST 13, 2025

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the introduction on first reading of Ordinance #25-11. Motion was moved by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

ORDINANCE #25-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 209 “ANIMALS”, ARTICLE 1 “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO PERMIT CHICKENS AT THE NORTHVALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Borough of Northvale houses chickens for educational purposes in the enclosed courtyard at the Northvale Public School; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Code does not presently allow for the keeping of chickens in the Borough but the Borough wishes to create an exception for the above purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 209, Article 1 of the Borough Code is hereby amended as follows.

Section 1:

§ 209-1 Keeping of certain animals restricted.

No person, firm or corporation shall keep or allow to be kept in any building or enclosure or any premises in the Borough of Northvale of which he or they may be the owner, lessee, tenant or occupant any live fowl or other livestock or any hooved animal or animals as described under § 209-3, Classifications.

§ 209-2 Findings.

It shall be in the interest of the residents of the borough to regulate and control the keeping of animals in the borough for the following reasons:

A.

The keeping of animals may foster the breeding of insects and rodents and the germination of bacteria and other infectious microbes, all of which may cause diseases.

B.

The keeping of animals may create foul and noxious odors as well as disturbing noises.



C.

The keeping of animals may otherwise affect the public health, welfare and safety.

§ 209-3 Classifications.

The following shall apply:

A.

Class I -- Includes a lion, tiger, bear or any other animal of large size belonging to the biological order of Carnivora, or any other undomesticated mammal or reptile of large size, except as provided in Class II and Class III below.

B.

Class II -- Includes a horse, pony or any other species of animal belonging to the biological order of Perissodactyla, or a cow or any other species of animal belonging to the biological order of Artiodactyla, provided that Class II is constituted only of animals of which the average weight for an adult of this species is greater than 600 pounds, except for ponies.

C.

Class III -- Includes a sheep or goat or any other species of animal belonging to the biological order of Artiodactyla or any species of animal belonging to the biological order of Perrisodactyla, provided that Class III is constituted only of animals which the average weight for an adult of the species is less than 600 pounds.

D.

Class IV -- Any other exotic animal, bird, fowl, reptile or poultry, including pigeons.

§ 209-4 Exceptions.

A.

Domestic cats and dogs. Domestic cats and domestic dogs are specifically excluded from the classifications of animals herein.

B.

Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

DOMESTIC CAT

A member of the Felidae family long kept by man as a pet, but not including members of the Felidae family that usually live in a wild state.

DOMESTIC DOG

A member of the Canidae family long kept by man as a pet, but not including members of the Canidae family usually living in a wild state.

C. For Educational purposes, chickens may be kept by the Northvale Board of Education at the Northvale Public School in the enclosed courtyard.

§ 209-5 Restricted animals.

The following shall apply:

A.

Except as set forth above, nNo animal of Classes I, II, III and IV shall be kept or maintained in the Borough of Northvale.

§ 209-6 Declaration of nuisance.

In accordance with the purposes set forth, any violation of any section of this article will be deemed to constitute a condition that will endanger the health, safety and welfare of the public and is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Such nuisance is subject to abatement at the expense of the property owner.

§ 209-7 Violations and penalties.

Any person who violates or refuses to comply with any section of this article shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$500, plus cost of court for each offense.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by Law.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Absent	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.

Councilwoman Fernandez arrived at 7:20 pm.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President McMorrow – the Police activity report for the month of June is as follows: 2 DWI arrests, 49 year old female from Norwood and 72 year old male from Hasbrouck Heights. Total calls for June were 784: 115 selective enforcement traffic details, 144 traffic stops, 35 parking enforcement summonses, 18 motor vehicle crashes, 34 suspicious activity calls, 35 alarm activation calls. The Police had their Inaugural Pizza With The Police event on June 19th which was a rousing success. The event was sponsored by the Northvale Police Department Community Services Unit in partnership with Three Boys From Italy pizzeria. The response from the community was beyond our expectations and visitors of all ages attended to enjoy pizza of all types that were generously donated by Vincent Gaudio, owner of Three Boys, who has been in business in Northvale for over 25 years. Police officers interacted with the crowd, served pizza, provided small giveaway prizes, and most importantly, engaged in conversation with all to build relationships and trust within our community. Considering positive feedback from all, this event will continue for years to come. Thanks to Lieutenant Joe Alise who spearheaded the concept and organized this wonderful event on one of the last days of school.

The Northvale Junior Police Academy completed its 16th year with the graduation of its largest class of cadets since its inception. This year's program included trips to the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police Marine Unit, Rockland County Sheriff Mounted Patrol Unit, and demonstrations provided by the Bergen County Sheriffs K-9 Unit, Bergen County SWAT, the Northvale Fire Department, and the Northvale Ambulance Corps. It was a week filled with new learning experiences, trust building activities, and most importantly building relationships between the communities, children, and our police officers. Thank you to Sgt. Albanese and Officer Puccio for an outstanding job in organizing this year's program. Both of these events were absolutely wonderful. We, as a town, are fortunate to have such a proactive department, always looking for ways to engage the community.

Also a reminder that Northvale PD has reposted their participation in Operation Blue Envelope, a program designed to support drivers with autism, dementia, or communication challenges during traffic stops. A blue envelope marked "DRIVER HAS SPECIAL NEEDS" with checkboxes for verbal/non-verbal drivers. It includes instructions for both the driver and officer to ensure a safe and respectful interaction. Those interested in enrolling in Project Blue Envelope or for more information, please send an email to policechief@northvalepd.org or call the PD headquarters for more information.

The Preschool is closed for the summer and busily working to get everything in order for the start of the school year in September. Michelle Miller will be taking over as Director. We hope the staff is also taking some much needed time to rest and relax.

The Ambulance Corps had a total of 18 calls in the month of June – 8 to Northvale, 3 Rockleigh Jewish Home, 1 Harrington Park, 3 Closter, 1 Haworth, and 2 other. Thank you for their participation in the rec closing day celebration.

Councilman Bakalian – there was one Planning Board meeting where the discussion was about the low income housing requirements. The Building Department issued 17 permits in the month of June and updated 1 permit. The year to date is \$171,204 which is \$80,895 more than last year. Andy Gullestad replaced Charlie as the Vice Chairman.

Councilman Menafra – Fire Department statistics for the month of June -18 emergency calls totaling 100.75 man hours, which include 8 fire alarms, 5 CO alarms, 1 utility, 1 smoke condition, and 1 structural fire. There were 24 non-emergency calls totaling 354 1/2 man hours which includes 3 company drills and 2 fire academy training events.

Fire Prevention completed 21 inspections and 9 re-inspections in the month of June. Northvale Board of Education had two regular meetings, June 25th and July 7th. The Superintendent thanked students, staff, and parents for another excellent school year. He noted that interviews are currently underway for 3 remaining open positions and expects to have candidates to recommend for those positions at the July and August meetings. There were



questions about the continued turnover of school administration, namely school principal. A couple of teachers voiced that the administration is supportive of programs in place at the school. Mr. Pinajian responded that these decisions are not taken lightly and no one from the administration or Board of Education is happy about the turnover. The principal's wife spoke on behalf of her husband who stated that he was taken by surprise at the request of the Superintendent asking for his resignation.

Teacher contract negotiations are still underway. The next meeting is the end of July. Northern Valley Board of Education had their regular meeting on June 30th. It was standing room only with the crowd being in support of the NVD track coach, Michael Ippolito. His contract was not renewed. Multiple parents, former and current students questioned the decision to not bring back the leader of a highly successful program that has seen consecutive winning seasons and had a positive impact on the lives of many students. The July meeting has been cancelled due to lack of quorum. The next meeting will be held on August 25th at the NVD Media Center.

Councilman Mattessich – Shout out to the DPW for doing a nice job. DPW continues with park maintenance, sewer maintenance, potholes being filled, chipping, collecting brush, and appliance pickups.

The Senior Center had their 4th of July celebration on July 3rd. Earlier today, Joel Farkas did a lecture on the Declaration of Independence. The monthly breakfast is set for July 15th at 10 am. On July 23rd Home Foot Care Services will do a presentation on feet care for seniors. On July 24th the 1st Bergen Federal Credit Union will present the fundamentals of financial wellness. Golden Age Club had their meeting on July 2nd. In August, the members will be going to the Pines Theatre in Pennsylvania to have dinner and see the show Footloose. September's trip is to The Shore Club in Spring Lake.

Recreation Department – summer basketball league is continuing. I will contact Sarah and get updates from her and the other commissioners. There is no meeting in July and the next meeting should be in the middle of August.

Councilwoman Fernandez – the Library board meeting is July 23rd at 6:30 pm. On June 21, the Library celebrated their 10 year anniversary. There was a magician and a band. As always, check out the Library's website for more information. On June 21st the beautification committee held a town cleanup day. We hope to have more in the future.

In addition to our new Municipal Judge Martone being appointed, Northvale and Rockleigh Municipal Courts ranked number 3 out of 70 municipal courts in the area of backlog control from July 1, 2024 through June 10, 2025.

Councilman Sokoloski – At the June 19th Board of Health meeting, approximately 6 residents attended regarding the proposed chicken ordinance. While the majority was okay with allowing chickens in town as long as it was regulated and enforced as written in the proposed ordinance, the Board decided to not move forward with any changes. The old ordinance prohibiting chickens will remain. They were agreeable to a special allowance for chickens at the Northvale school. The next meeting is October 16th.

Nothing new to report on the Northern Valley Greenway. At the request of the Greenway, we need to review our latest Master Plan to see if it includes the proposed Greenway. After reviewing the Master Plan, it is included.

There was an increase of \$1,494,976 in pending grants last month. There has been no change in grants awarded since December 24th.

Mayor McGuire – the reassessment process continues and seems to be going smoothly. We have educated quite a few people on the process and are open to any questions.

Thank you to Councilwoman Fernandez and everyone who came out for the town wide cleanup on June 21st. Areas cleaned up were along Union Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Veterans Park, and Hogan Park.

Upcoming events include Art in the Park today, July 9th at 5:30 pm, Blend Band Concert on Friday, July 11th at 7 pm and Peus Cash Band on Friday, July 18th at 7 pm. All events are at Hogan Park. Town Day is Saturday, September 6th from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Rain date is Sunday, September 7th.

Thank you to Kari Sedano and Iris Fallon for coordinating the Art in the Park.



BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr Ralph had nothing to report at this time.

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Loverich – basketball court at Veterans Park is 100% done. The benches for Hogan Park have been ordered and should be shipped this month. Neglia is currently in the field performing storm system mapping and expects it to be completed in mid-August. Upon completion, Neglia will begin preparing the necessary GIS data for submission to NJDEP.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Chris Bombino, 123 Rockland Avenue – has been coming to these meetings for the last 9 months against ordinance 1903-2024. Thank you to Mayor McGuire for coming to the neighborhood and doing a survey of the neighbors. Mr. Bombino went over the parking violations for June 15th and June 29th. On June 15th, there were vehicles stopped in front of the fire hydrant for drop offs and pick ups and parked in the no parking zone. On June 29th there were vehicles parked in the no parking zone. This ordinance encouraged bad behavior. He reminded the Council that there is ample unused parking that the church does not use. Until allowing parking on Chestnut Street is removed, he will continue to report and come to meetings every month.

Mayor McGuire said he will speak to the remaining two residents and will regroup with the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion was moved by Councilman Menafra, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:

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: August 13, 2025