



MINUTES

Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Thursday, July 16, 2026
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 7:00 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 Special 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 AND MOMEN OF SILENCE

Mayor McGuire asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag. Mayor McGuire asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for our first responders and troops around the world defending our freedom.

Mayor McGuire asked for roll call of the Council:

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

Other Officials Present:

Robert Ferraro, Borough Attorney
Joseph Luppino, Chief Financial Officer
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

Mayor McGuire stated that this is the Public Hearing of the 2026 Municipal Budget. Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments pertaining to the budget. 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 #2026-129. Motion was moved by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Council President McMorrow.

RESOLUTION #2026-129

TITLE: ADOPTION OF THE 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statement of revenues and appropriations attached hereto constitute the adopted local budget of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, New Jersey for the year 2026.



Revenue and Appropriation Summaries - Anticipated

Summary of Revenues	2026	2025
1. Surplus	\$55,000.00	\$700,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	2,421,414.00	1,731,735.08
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	425,000.00	295,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	9,016,736.00	8,509,000.00
b) Addition to Local District School Tax		
c) Minimum Library Tax	489,866.00	431,605.08
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Municipal	9,506,603.00	8,941,190.75
Total General Revenues	\$12,408,017.00	\$11,667,925.83
Summary of Appropriations		
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	\$3,935,900.00	\$3,873,600.00
Other Expenses	5,386,522.78	5,156,579.16
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	1,545,777.55	1,276,797.41
3. Capital Improvements	20,000.00	60,000.00
4. Debt Service	1,080,000.00	982,500.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	439,817.01	318,454.26
Total General Appropriations	\$12,408,017.34	\$11,667,930.83

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments pertaining to Resolution #2026-129. 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 Menafrá	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2026-130. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Councilwoman Fernandez.

RESOLUTION #2026-130

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)	\$187,988.63
General Capital Fund	
Grant Fund	
Animal Trust	
Police DEA Trust	
Escrow Trust	
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	
Donation Trust Account	
Unemployment Trust	
Summer Recreation Trust	
SUBTOTAL	
Current Fund Off Cycle Check	
Payroll 10 5/8/2026	



Payroll 11 5//21/2026	
	\$187,988.63

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		
Health Benefits		
Health Benefits		
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education		
Northvale Public Library		
Capital – Inter-fund		
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter		
DTC- Bond Interest		
TOTAL		\$187,988.63

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$187,988.63** are ratified respectively.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments pertaining to Resolution #2026-130. 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

Mayor McGuire thanked Mr. Luppino. He told him he appreciates all the work he did on the budget.

Mr. Luppino thanked the Mayor and Council for their support. He also thanked the staff, Fran, Suzanne, and Nicole. He continued that every year is a tough year with inflation. If we stayed with the state health plan, we would be seeing an increase of 60% next year.

Mayor McGuire asked Mr. Ferraro if he had any comments. Mr. Ferraro informed everyone that the Judge signed off on the affordable housing plan so now the plan is in place.



Councilman Sokoloski said this was a very good budget. We tried to save money where we can. It is the first time some residents' taxes have gone down due to the revaluation. We did a good job especially Mr. Luppino on how to save money.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorrow. All were in favor to adjourn..

Joseph E. McGuire

Mayor

ATTEST:

Frances M. Weston

Frances M. Weston
Municipal Clerk

Approved: August 12, 2026

