

**MINUTES**  
**Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council**  
**Wednesday, August 10, 2022**  
**7:00 PM**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

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

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT NOTICE**

Mayor Marana read the Open Public Meeting 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 Newspaper 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 & MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Marana asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag led by Ronnie Cosseta. Mayor Marana asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence remembering our troops stationed everywhere. He also asked everyone to remember Rob Carney a longtime fireman that passed away suddenly at the young age of 46. He is leaving behind 3 children.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call of the Council:**

Mayor Marana	Present	Councilman Hogan	Present
Councilman Argiro	Present	Councilman McGuire	Present
Councilman DeLisio	Present	Councilwoman McMorrow	Present
Councilman Devlin	Present		

**Other Officials Present:**

Jaime Placek, Borough Attorney via conference call  
Marie Raffay, Borough Engineer  
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

**AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Marana presented the members of the Red Men with a proclamation for their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Northvale Improved Order of Red Men declaring August “Improved Order of Red Men Half Moon Tribe 283 Month” in the Borough. They raise money for charitable causes and support local organizations. Mayor Marana also gave them a Proclamation from the County Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Marana asked for motion and second to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Public Hearing of the 2022 Budget held on July 28, 2022.

Motion made by Councilman Hogan, seconded by Council President DeLisio.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Yes
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorrow	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  
Colliers Engineering

Fire Prevention  
Millenium Strategies  
Recreation Minutes  
Tax Collector

**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 Marana asked for a motion and second to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #2022-127 and 2022-128. Motion made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Councilwoman McMorrow.**

**RESOLUTION #2022-127**

**TITLE: SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 AND N.J.S.A. 40A:4-55**

**WHEREAS**, an ordinance has been adopted creating a special emergency appropriation of \$120,000 for Severance Payment and no adequate provision was made in the 2022 budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 provides for the creation of a special emergency appropriation for the purpose above mentioned, and

**WHEREAS**, the total amount of Emergency Appropriations created including the appropriation to be created by this resolution is .....\$120,000

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 and 40A:4-55:

1. A special emergency appropriation be and the same is hereby made for Severance Payment..... \$120,000
2. Total amount per ordinance is for \$120,000 and the Mayor and Council hereby requests that an exclusion from the "Cap" be granted by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with P.L. 1981 Chapter 56 in the amount of \$24,000 per year in the budgets of the next five succeeding years commencing with the budgets of 2023 in accordance with 40A:4-55 (C).
3. That a special emergency note or notes be authorized not in excess of \$120,000, the amount appropriated by ordinance as stated above.
4. Such notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Ordinance and this resolution and shall be negotiable notes payable to bearer, or registered notes, and shall bear interest at a rate per annum within the limitations prescribed by law, and such interest shall be payable at the maturity of such notes. The notes shall be dated on or about the date of their issuance and may be renewed from time to time, but at least 1/5 of the total amount of notes hereby authorized, and the renewals thereof, shall mature and be paid in each year, so that all notes and renewals shall have matured and have been paid not later than the last day of the fifth year following the date of this resolution. The issuing officers are authorized to provide that the notes may be redeemable at the option of the Borough.
5. The Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized to execute said notes, and the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the Borough to such notes and to attest such seal and said notes, and said officers are hereby authorized to

issue said notes in such form as they may adopt in conformity with law and to recite therein that all requirements and conditions of law have been complied with in the issuance of said notes, and that said notes are within every debt and other limit prescribed by the Constitution or statutes of New Jersey.

6. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell said notes and any renewals thereof from time to time, at public or private sale, at not less than par and accrued interest and to determine within the limitations prescribed by this resolution, the date, principal amount, maturity date, and denomination of said notes, and the rate of interest said notes shall bear and to deliver such notes upon receiving the purchase price to be paid therefor.
7. The Borough Council hereby covenants on behalf of the Borough, to the extent permitted by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Jersey, to do and perform all acts and things permitted by law and necessary to assure that interest paid on bonds, notes or other obligations of the Borough (including the Special Emergency Notes) be and remain excluded from gross income of the owners thereof for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code").
8. The Borough Council hereby designates the Special Emergency Notes as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purpose of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code. It is hereby determined and stated that the Special Emergency Notes (1) are not "private activity bonds" as defined in the Code and (2) the Borough and its subordinate entities, if any, do not reasonably anticipate issuing in excess of \$10 million of new money tax-exempt obligations (other than private activity bonds) during the calendar year 2022. The Borough will, to the best of its ability, attempt to comply with respect to the limitations on issuance of tax-exempt obligations pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Code; however, the Borough does not covenant to do so, and expressly states that a covenant is not made hereby.
9. That two certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
10. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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**RESOLUTION #2022-128**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADJUSTMENT OF PAY FOR FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTOR RICHARD HESS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale currently employs two fire prevention inspectors, Richard Hess and Charles Thomas; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles Thomas will be assuming the role of Fire Marshall effective September 1, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Hess will be retiring from his full-time employment and has agreed to assume the role and duties of both Fire Prevention Inspectors effective September 1, 2022;

**WHEREAS**, the current salaries for the two Fire Prevention Inspectors are \$7,429.00 and \$7,483.00 respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Borough to amend the salary of Richard Hess to provide a combined salary of \$14,912.00, effective September 1, 2022 representing the assumption of duties of two positions now to be held by Richard Hess.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Northvale that the salary for Richard Hess shall be increased to \$14,912.00 representing his assumption of duties of two Fire Prevention Inspectors effective September 1, 2022.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Marana opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on the Consent Agenda items only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Marana closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Yes
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorrow	Yes

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**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2022-129. Motion made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Councilman Hogan.**

**RESOLUTION #2022-129**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #RL228 - K OF C IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COUNCIL 9021-50/50 RAFFLE-SEPTEMBER 17, 2022**

**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2022-129. Motion made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Councilman Hogan.**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the following license to conduct an Off Premise Raffle be issued to:

NAME:	K of C Immaculate Conception Council 9021
ADDRESS:	211 Summit Street, Norwood, NJ
LOCATION OF RAFFLE:	199 Walnut Street
HOURS:	7:00-11:00 PM
DATE OF RAFFLE:	September 17, 2022
ID #:	355-6-42364
RAFFLE LICENSE #:	RL 228

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Marana opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Resolution #2022-129 only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Marana closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Abstain
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorrow	Yes

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**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2022-130. Motion made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Councilman Argiro.**

**RESOLUTION #2022-130**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTING JOSEPH LUPPINO AS THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has accepted the resignation of its prior Chief Financial Officer effective August 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Joseph Luppino has applied for the position of Chief Financial Officer, a part-time position, and has excellent credentials to hold said position including previously serving as the Bergen County Treasurer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough believes Joseph Luppino is the most qualified individual to serve as the Chief Financial Officer for the Borough and it is in the best interest of the Borough to authorize his appointment.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Northvale that Joseph Luppino be appointed Chief Financial Officer effective September 1, 2022, on a part-time basis, at an annual salary of \$40,000.00 for a term of four (4) years pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-14

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Marana opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Resolution #2022-130 only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Marana closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	No
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorrow	No

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**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve Resolution #2022-131. Motion made by Councilman Hogan, seconded by Council President DeLisio.**

**RESOLUTION #2022-131**

**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 (2021)	
Current Fund Appropriations (2022)	\$244,722.29
General Capital Fund	\$278,449.67
Grant Fund	\$1,645.75
Animal Trust	
Police DEA Trust	
Escrow Trust	\$8,721.25
Affordable Housing Trust	
Recreation Trust	\$2,203.09
Summer Recreation Trust	\$9,787.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$545,529.89</b>

**WHEREAS**, above claims have been listed and summarized in the attached Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, council liaison, 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 attached hereto, 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:

Payroll – Salaries & Wages	07-08-2022	\$167,660.25
Payroll – Salaries & Wages	07-22-2022	\$157,712.41
Health Benefits	July 2022	\$51,750.00
Northvale Greens	June 2022	\$275,000.00
Northvale Greens	July 2022	\$19,904.89
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$672,027.55</b>

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$1,217,557.44** and ratified respectively.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Marana opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Resolution #2022-131 only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Marana closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Abstain	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Yes
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorro	Yes

**ORDINANCES – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve the second reading of Ordinance #1057-2022. Motion made by Council President DeLisio, seconded by Councilman Argiro.**

**ORDINANCE #1057-2022**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION  
N.J.S. 40A:4-53**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:4-53 (Ch. 48, P.L. 1956 as amended, including Ch. 46, P.L. 2010 and Ch. 38, P.L. 1969) the sum of \$120,000 is hereby appropriated for a Severance Payment and shall be deemed a special emergency appropriation as defined and provided for in N.J.S. 40A:4-53 and N.J.S. 40A:4-55.

The authorization to finance the appropriation shall be provided for in succeeding annual budgets by the inclusion of at least 1/5 of the amount authorized pursuant to this act (N.J.S. 40A:4-55).

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that this ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner provided by law.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Marana opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Ordinance #1057-2022 only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Marana closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Yes
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorrow	Yes

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**ORDINANCES – 1<sup>ST</sup> Reading**

**Mayor Marana asked for a motion and second to approve the second reading of Ordinance #1058-2022. Motion made by Council President DeLisio, seconded by Councilman McGuire.**

**ORDINANCE #1058-2022**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE AS SHOWN ON THE TAX MAP AS BLOCK 1001, LOT 10**

**WHEREAS**, the owner of record of approximately 0.0574 acres of property commonly known and identified as 153-A Scharer Avenue and designated on the official tax map of the Borough of Northvale as Block 1001, Lot 10 (the “Property”) has expressed interest in selling the Property to the Borough of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale previously identified the Property as one that has been recommended for acquisition by the Borough of Northvale for public use as open space and, by Resolution 2021-210 adopted December 8, 2021, the Governing Body authorized the conducting of a preliminary investigation to determine whether the Property would be suitable for acquisition by the Borough of Northvale for use as open space; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:61-1(a), the Borough of Northvale is authorized to acquire the Property for use as a public park and place for public resort and recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution 2022-100 adopted June 8, 2022, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale authorized the execution by the Mayor of the Contract for Sale of Real Estate with the owner of record of the Property for the acquisition of the Property by the Borough of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale has had the Property appraised and the appraiser supports the acquisition price of Eighty Thousand and 00/100THS (\$80,000.00) Dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, by Bond Ordinance 1056-2022 adopted July 28, 2022, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale authorized the appropriation of funds necessary for the purchase of the Property from the proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized thereby; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, finding it to be in the best interests of the Borough of Northvale and its residents to acquire the Property, desires to complete the purchase of the Property in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:61-1(a) and the

Contract for Sale of Real Estate entered into by the Borough of Northvale with the owner of record of the Property as authorized by Resolution 2022-100 adopted June 8, 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale as follows:

**Section 1.** The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth at length.

**Section 2.** In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:61-1(a), and consistent with Resolution 2022-100 adopted June 8, 2022 and the Contract for Sale of Real Estate entered into by the Borough of Northvale as authorized by said Resolution, the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale shall and hereby does authorize the purchase of the real property commonly known as and located at 153-A Scharer Avenue in the Borough of Northvale and designated on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Northvale as Block 1001, Lot 10 from the owner of record for the sum of Eighty Thousand and 00/100THS (\$80,000.00) Dollars, to be paid, together with the usual and customary closing costs, from the proceeds of Bond Ordinance 1056-2022 adopted July 28, 2022.

**Section 3.** The real property commonly known as and located at 153-A Scharer Avenue in the Borough of Northvale and designated on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Northvale as Block 1001, Lot 10 is being acquired by the Borough of Northvale for use as a passive park and will be subject to recorded restrictions that will prohibit the development of this property for any other purpose.

**Section 4.** DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP, counsel to the Borough of Northvale, shall be and is hereby further authorized and directed to prepare any and all documents required to consummate the acquisition of real property commonly known as and located at 153-A Scharer Avenue in the Borough of Northvale and designated on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Northvale as Block 1001, Lot 10 as said purchase is authorized by Resolution 2022-100 adopted June 8, 2022 by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale and as authorized by this Ordinance, and all relevant Borough officials shall be and are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in furtherance of the intentions of the within Ordinance, so long as said documents are in a form satisfactory to counsel to the Borough of Northvale.

**Section 5.** If any part of this Ordinance is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall be saved to the fullest extent possible. Any ambiguities in this Ordinance shall be construed in accordance with the purpose of this ordinance.

**Section 6.** All prior ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed. All ordinances are hereby amended to be consistent with this Ordinance and all ordinances, including this one, shall be construed consistent with the express purpose of this Ordinance.

**Section 7.** This Ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

**Mayor Marana asked for a roll call vote of the Council:**

Councilman Argiro	Yes	Councilman Hogan	Yes
Councilman DeLisio	Yes	Councilman McGuire	Yes
Councilman Devlin	Yes	Councilwoman McMorro	Yes

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

**Lynn Smothergill, 409 Holly Place** – feels that a small property located between two residential houses doesn't seem to be a place to spend \$80,000. The money would be better spent on a pickleball court or tennis court at Hogan Park or Veterans Park. The Senior Citizens would love



it. Councilman Argiro explained that the Council was advised by the attorney that this is our only move. If the Planning Board does not approve, she can go to court and will win and then a 10 ft. wide house will be built on that property. Mayor Marana explains that the appraisal was \$120,000. The town can put a pocket park on the lot.

**Tony Ubl, 161 Scharer Avenue** – feels this is a complete waste of \$80,000 on that little piece of property. He asked who will use this pocket park and who will maintain it. The DPW has enough work. He further says that we do not need a pocket park.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council President DeLisio** – reported that the Police had 477 total events for the month of July. From Chief Ostrow, the radar signs are moved every two weeks to a different location. There was active shooter training held at the school for all officers on July 27th. Thank you to Mr. Pinajian for the use of the school for training. Captain Michael Graham officially retired as of July 31<sup>st</sup>. The Chief thanked the personnel committee and Mayor and Council for their diligence in going through the process to hire a new Police Officer. The American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant was submitted in the amount of \$51,153 with estimated response in the Fall. We applied for NJ DOT transportation alternatives grant in the amount of \$1,500,000 and estimated response is in the Fall. Northern Valley Greenway's next meeting is tomorrow evening.

**Councilwoman McMorrow** – reported that the Ambulance Corps monthly meetings will resume in September. There were 16 calls for the month of June and 23 calls for the month of July. The Chamber of Commerce met on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Their next meeting is August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilman Devlin** – reported on the various projects that the DPW have been working on. There was vandalism at both parks. The Golden Age trip of the month on July 21<sup>st</sup> was an Essex Train Ride and Boat Ride. The Senior Center had two luncheons and a presentation in July. The Fire Department had 13 calls for the month of July. Special thank you to Gerry and Chris Smithson for putting in the information needed for the grant. Mayor Marana also commended both Smithsons and Ed Witkowski.

**Councilman Hogan** – reported that the Building Department issued 20 permits for the month of July. The total fees for the month collected were \$28,764, with the year to date being \$148,470. There was \$200,000 budgeted so they are right on track. Planning and Zoning Board meeting scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to problems with the recorder. That meeting was rescheduled to August 3<sup>rd</sup>. One application, former Councilman Scott Furletti of 509 West Avenue, adding an addition on his home, which triggered a rear yard setback variance of 3 feet, 30 feet are needed, only has 27 available. Variance was granted. The next meeting is August 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilman Argiro** – reported that the Recreation summer basketball and adult softball has ended. Adult softball will be having a charity event on August 21<sup>st</sup> at Hogan Park at 10:00 am. They take a bunch of players from the league and encourage people that attend to donate \$25 and up. Last year \$1,000 was raised. Soccer registration closes on Friday. Junior Rifle Club registration is open until Monday. The Library has an event full calendar. Bids were collected for their big renovation and are being narrowed down to 3 bidders. Former Councilman Sokoloski is going to go through them to see if they are up to spec.

**Councilman McGuire** – reported that the Preschool and High School have been quiet. The Northvale School has a special referendum election which will be held on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. It is a \$10.6 million total for the project. About \$8-1/2MM of that is eligible for 40 % state reimbursement which means \$3.4MM of that comes off as far as what Northvale taxpayers will be on the hook for. So it is about a \$7.2MM endeavor when all is said and done. The main parts of it are a new roof, additions to HVAC system which is about \$3.7MM of that, the only places in school with no a/c are the apr cafeteria and gymnasium, modular classrooms built on the southside of the school about \$2MM, purpose is to move the boe offices into part of that and to generate revenue thru the classrooms by not sending children out for special needs by bringing

some in, media center revamped about \$1MM, and some miscellaneous things such as replacing doors, which are the original doors from 1962, replace for safety and security issues. All in all looks like an increase of approximately \$49 per year at a house assessed at \$400,000.

**Mayor Marana** – reported as of July 22<sup>nd</sup> the latest CSX roadblock on the Clinton Avenue paving project has to do with their consulting engineer requesting additional information on a probable sewer line easement 40 feet north of the crossing. The easement was created in the early 1970's when the sewers were installed. Eleven months into getting this project approved the CSX Engineer is requesting easement information which has nothing to do with the project. DOT Railroad engineer called and explained what was going on. She agreed it has nothing to do with the DOT project.

Mayor Marana asked Ms. Raffay to give an updated report on Clinton Avenue. Ms. Raffay connected with the DOT. They are adjusting plans at the crossing to avoid the right of way issue with CSX and are planning to pave just a little bit shy of the CSX Right of Way. Mayor Marana adds that Craig thinks we can go out to bid in August. Marie said we are almost ready. Mayor Marana continued his report. Otterstedt Insurance is looking into 2023 health insurance options. State health benefits are projected to increase 24% medical and 4% pharmacy. Otterstedt is looking to provide other quotes.

### **BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT**

**Ms. Raffay** – reported that the application for the 2023 DOT grant for 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of Veterans Drive was submitted. The resolution had to be put into the state system. Thank you to the Mayor and Clerk for helping with that process. We will find out in November. The 2022 DOT Veterans Drive, Paris to Legrand, will be going out to bid. Bid opening will be August 25<sup>th</sup> and will be awarded at the September meeting. The 2019 and 2020 Paris/Livingston Streetscape is almost done. The light posts have to be installed. The two payment to Zuccaro were approved tonight. Riverside Coop Paving has been completed. Getting prices from contractor to see about paving Paulding Avenue. Riverside Coop Emergency Sewer and Water Main Repair contract will be going out to bid in August. Met with the Mayor to review the work for the 2020 and 2021 open space grants for Veterans Park Improvements. Colliers will be getting quotes in the Fall. Hogan Park Improvements – the outfield fence was put up but the contractor will be coming back in a month to complete the sidewalk work. Transportation alternatives set-asides (TAP) is a program the DOT sponsors for non-traditional surface transportation projects that encourage walking, biking, and non-vehicular traffic. Looking into completing benches along Livingston to the New York border. There will be a meeting at the end of August to submit the grant application.

### **BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT**

**Mr. Placek** – is working on the garbage specs.

### **OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

**Tom Gannon, 207 Willow Avenue** – asked if there was any discussion about maintaining bamboo. Mayor Marana is looking at ordinances from other towns.

**Lynn Smothergill, 409 Holly Place** – questioned again as to why the town is purchasing 153A Scharer Avenue. She feels like the town is being bullied into purchasing the lot. The council all agreed that they do not like the idea of the town purchasing the property. However, legal counsel advised them. Councilman McGuire said the property was appraised and it has to be accepted as if a house was fully built on the property. Councilman Hogan said we created the lot, if you tell them it doesn't conform then they will go to Superior Court and we will lose.

**Billy Guyt, 195 High Street** – there was a complaint made against the DPW at the last meeting. After the meeting he went to the firehouse to meet with the complainant and walked the park and found 2 objects only, a can and ball in the whole park. Mr. Guyt proceeded to take the items out of a bag to show the Council.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Devlin, seconded by Council President DeLisio to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM. All were in favor to adjourn.

*Patrick J. Marana*

Mayor

**ATTEST:**

*Frances M. Weston*

Frances M. Weston  
Municipal Clerk

Approved: September 14, 2022





