

# MINUTES

Mayor and Council Regular Meeting

April 23, 2026

7:00 P.M.

## CALL TO ORDER –

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge was held in person in Council Chambers of the River Edge Municipal Building located at 705 Kinderkamack Road, River Edge, NJ 07661 and virtually via Zoom on April 23, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Thomas Papaleo.

## SILENT PRAYER – FLAG SALUTE

Councilwoman Dhariwal asked for a moment of silence for the victims and families of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir which took place a year ago and asked that peace prevail. Councilman Feffer then led those present in a salute to the flag.

## STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE -

Mayor Papaleo read the Statement of Compliance into the record as follows:

Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meeting Act: This meeting complies with the Open Public Meeting Act by notification on January 9, 2026 and January 16, 2026 of the location, date, time, and access information to the Town News and the Record and by posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough website and filing a notice of the same with the Municipal Clerk.

## ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council President Kinsella, Councilwoman Malellari, Councilman Benson, Councilwoman Dhariwal and Mayor Papaleo.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Montisano-Koen and Councilman Glass

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Lissette Aportela  
Borough Attorney John Shahdanian, Esq.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

On a motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, seconded by Councilwoman Dhariwal, and all members present voting in favor, that the Minutes of the Mayor and Council Regular Meeting of March 12, 2026 and Mayor and Council Regular Meeting of March 26, 2026 are hereby approved.

## RESOLUTIONS –

### **#26-128 Authorize Promotion of Michael McGinty to the Position of Police Captain**

Motion by Councilman Feffer, second by Councilwoman Kinsella, that Resolution #26-128 be approved.

The vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

**#26-129 Authorize Promotion of Marc Abate to the Position of Police Lieutenant**

Motion by Councilman Feffer, second by Councilwoman Kinsella, that Resolution #26-129 be approved.

The vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

**#26-130 Authorize Promotion of Edward Blue to the Position of Police Sergeant**

Motion by Councilman Feffer, second by Councilwoman Kinsella, that Resolution #26-130 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

**OATH OF OFFICE –**

**Mayor Papaleo will administer the Oath of Office to Michael McGuinty for the position of Police Captain**

Mayor Papaleo administered the Oath of Office to Captain Michael McGinty who was joined by his wife.

**Mayor Papaleo will administer the Oath of Office to Marc Abate for the position of Police Lieutenant**

Mayor Papaleo administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Marc Abate who was joined by his son.

Lt. Abate thanked the governing body for their trust in appointing him to this position. He noted that he plans to utilize his knowledge and experience to carry out this role. He stated that he looks forward to working with both patrol and Chief Walker. He expressed appreciation to his family, the residents, and the retired officers who were present.

**Mayor Papaleo will administer the Oath of Office to Edward Blue for the position of Police Sergeant**

Mayor Papaleo administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Edward Blue who was joined by his family.

Chief Walker thanked all the officers in the Police Department. He thanked Lt. Zemaites, Sgt. Griffith, and the PBA who agreed to modify the process to make these promotions possible. He

acknowledged the officers who were not promoted for being present this evening. He expressed gratitude to the Mayor and Council for taking the time to understand the Table of Organization which he noted is very important to the operations of the Police Department. He commended Captain McGinty, Lt. Abate, and Sgt. Blue for working out of title, advising that their salary adjustment will not take place until a month from now.

## **2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION –**

### **#26-131 Resolution to Read the Budget by Title Only**

Motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, second by Councilwoman Malellari, that Resolution #25-131 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

### **#26-132 Self-Exam Resolution**

Motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, second by Councilwoman Malellari, that Resolution #26-132 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

Chris Battaglia, CFO, advised that the budget has been thoroughly reviewed prior to adoption. He stated that total amount of appropriations is \$22.8 million and the amount that will be raised in taxes to support this budget is \$17.5 million resulting in an approximate increase of 4.5% year over year. He noted that 61% of this increase resulted from the increase in medical benefit premiums with the remainder resulting from contractual obligations. He advised that they were able to keep the increase to \$767,000 with \$473,000 being comprised of the medical benefits costs alone.

### **Public Hearing on 2026 Municipal Budget**

Motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, second by Councilwoman Malellari, and all members present voting in favor, to open public comments on the 2026 Municipal Budget.

No one came forward.

Motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, second by Councilwoman Malellari, and all members present voting in favor, to close public comment, all in favor.

### **#26-133 Adopting 2026 Municipal Budget**

Motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, second by Councilwoman Malellari, that Resolution #24-132 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

## PROCLAMATIONS & AWARDS –

### Arbor Day

Mayor Papaleo read the following proclamation into the record:

#### PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, In 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and*

*WHEREAS, this holiday, called ARBOR DAY was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and*

*WHEREAS, ARBOR DAY is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and*

*WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and*

*WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and*

*WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and*

*WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Papaleo, Mayor of the Borough of River Edge, do hereby proclaim:*

***April 24, 2026***

***as***

***Arbor Day***

*in the Borough of River Edge, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and*

*FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and further generations.*

Mayor Papaleo advised that there will be a tree planting on Friday at Brookside Park which is being sponsored by the River Edge @USA 250 Committee. He further advised that the proclamation will be read again at this event.

## PRESENTATIONS –

### Health Insurance Alternative

Borough Administrator Aportela read the following information into the record:

“Fall of 2022 – claims history was requested since the 2023 premiums were increasing by 22% - it was shopped around with the health insurance funds that existed at that time and directly with insurance companies. Based on our claims’ experience, no other insurance entity offered the Borough coverage.

Summer of 2024 – Difference Card was presented to the unions which would require everyone to move from Direct 10 to the 20/35 plan. There was no interest from the unions in proceeding with this option. It is important to note that while the premiums increased 36% in 2026, the 20/35 plan received a 54% increase due to the number of entities who had employees switch to this plan to use in conjunction with the Difference Card.

July 2025 – requested claims history since the original reported 2026 increase was estimated to be 29%. Received the medical claims report in early August and the prescriptions claims report in late August. Upon receipt of each claims report, I had forwarded them to the risk manager to shop around. On October 16<sup>th</sup> received a proposal from NJ Solutions. Reviewed with the CFO and on 10/20, met with Conner Strong to go over the proposal and steps that were required in the event the M&C wanted to switch. Presented this information to employees on 10/23 who requested that the M&C remain in the State Health Benefits Program. If the M&C wanted the change to be effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, a resolution to opt out of the state program was required to be adopted and the state had to be notified by October 31<sup>st</sup>. The state requires 60 days’ notice. The Mayor and Council decided not to switch insurance carriers.

November 2025 - A bill based on Governor Murphy’s proposal eliminated all the plans and reduced them to a Direct 35/50 PPO, the tiered network plan, and the HD plan with HSA. No legislation moved forward to provide relief to schools or local entities for the 2026 SHBP increase, most of the same bills were introduced again in January and remain in committee. Past few years, the state has lowered the premium increase for state employees only.

New year – received requests to revisit the difference card from one group of employees and other group requested to look into a High Deductible Plan citing Butler, Glen Rock and Oradell. Labor Counsel did not recommend mandating enrollment in a high deductible plan. Oradell implemented a voluntary transition to a High Deductible Plan but according to the Administrator, the voluntary transition is not yielding enough relief and are looking into other options. Butler has implemented a High Deductible Health Plan Incentive Program, modeled with Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) of \$2500 for single coverage and \$5000 for spousal, parent/child, or family coverage and Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs) of \$3,700 for single coverage and \$7400 for spousal, parent/child, or family coverage funded by the Borough. According to the Butler Administrator, participation was not mandatory; however, it was incentivized through collective bargaining. During negotiations, they removed the Direct 10 plan and tied salary increases to enrollment levels: If 70% of union members (PBA and Blue Collar) enrolled in the HDHP, raises would be 4% annually. If the threshold was not met, raises would be limited to 2%. Non-union employees were told that Direct 10 was no longer being offered and that if they enroll in the HDHP option, they would receive the same incentives as union employees. 49 out of 50 employees enrolled in NJ Direct HD High. No issues with HSA funding or access, but early challenges are now emerging with HRA utilization, primarily related to employees navigating Explanation of Benefits (EOB) documentation and reimbursement procedures. Butler’s 2026 budget increase will be at 6.49% - an increase of \$194.97 per assessed value of \$450,000.

January 15, 2026 – Since the lame luck legislative session ended without any changes to the health insurance program, I requested our risk manager to look into options based on the suggestions

received from the employee groups and asked if we can engage in a shared service with another municipality. With regards to a shared service, that is what a Health Insurance Fund is for. March 9, 2026 – I asked our risk manager if we can join the county since they are self-insured based on a recommendation from a member of our citizens budget committee. Next day, I was informed that the county is not allowing any municipality to join their insurance.

March 26<sup>th</sup> received a proposal on combining the Difference Card with the High Deductible Plan.

March 29<sup>th</sup> received the current proposal from NJ Solutions, which would offer coverage effective July 1<sup>st</sup> without soliciting a new medical and prescriptions claims report. Met with the insurance representatives and labor attorney on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was not recommended moving forward with the High Deductible Plan with Difference Card option because based on the mid-year analysis by the state, it appears that the High Deductible Plan will receive a greater increase than the rest of the plans for 2027, similar as to what happened with the 20/35 plans. I provided a memo for the governing body that day to review and discuss on the April 9<sup>th</sup> Closed Session. On April 13<sup>th</sup>, I notified employees that a presentation by our risk manager and Connor Strong regarding the potential of joining NJ Solutions would take place on April 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a meeting of over 2 hours that included participation by employees asking questions and stating their concerns. If the M&C want the change to be effective July 1st, a resolution to opt out of the state program is required and the state has to be notified by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

It takes time for the risk managers throughout the state and authorized insurance brokers to receive proposals.

As I had explained in this year's budget meeting, the state conducts its open enrollment every October in which all employees can change their plans. Currently there are 6 PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) levels to select either through Horizon or Aetna, 1 HMO plan to select either through Horizon or Aetna, 1 tiered plan to select either through Horizon or Aetna, and 2 high deductible plans to select either through Horizon or Aetna. The coverage levels and corresponding premium rates are single, member-spouse, parent-child, and family. It is a balancing act for employees to choose the right plan for themselves and their dependents. Based on an employee's salary, one can be paying up to 35% of the medical premium. Co-pays are a factor depending on one's health condition and frequency of medical visits.

The High Deductible High plan recommendation that been mentioned does provide a premium that would be about ½ the cost of the NJ Direct 10 plan. With the Direct 10 plan, all primary and specialist co-pays are \$10 with no deductible, 10% co-insurance for select services, a total out-of-pocket maximum of \$400 for individuals and \$1000 for family for in-network services. With the High Deductible High Plan, the deductible must be met first, which is \$4150 for individuals and \$8300 for family including the eligible prescription cost share, then all medical visits (except a physical) require a 20% payment of the costs after the deductible is met including eligible prescription cost share, and a total out-of-pocket maximum of \$5,150 for individuals and \$10,300 for family including eligible prescription cost share. A Health Savings Account can be tied into the high deductible plan, which can be funded either by an individual and/or employer at a maximum of \$4400 for individuals and \$8750 family coverage. These limits are determined by the IRS and adjusted annually. The Health Savings Account can be withdrawn to pay for qualified medical expenses, can earn interest, unused funds can be carried over annually, and the account belongs to the employee, not the employer, even if the employer is contributing to the HSA. If an employee leaves, he/she takes the Health Savings Account with him/her.

The purpose of the High Deductible Plan is for those who could afford to self-insure and are healthier. The premium is lower because the exposure is greater to the participant. Due to employer incentives to move, the more expensive risk pool is moving to this plan. The number of

claims isn't changing, just which plan it is going under. On yesterday's state health plan committee call, it was noted that 2027 will have a greater premium adjustment to the HD plan as what had taken place with the 20/35 plan."

Scott Davenport, Connor Strong & Buckelew representative, commented that the financial situation with SHBP is getting worse. He explained that, in 2026, the greatest number of entities have exited the plan with even more anticipated to leave as an even higher increase in premiums is expected next year. Although he noted that the High Deductible Plan is very popular, it will be much less appealing moving forward. He recommended that the Borough move to NJ Solutions as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Councilwoman Kinsella read the following statement into the record:

"Thank you, Mayor. I just have a few comments, one thanking our BA Lissette Aportela for the history that she just explained to everyone, and it has been inferred that this idea of switching health providers or health insurance has been sprung on the employees is a little bit misleading. When state health insurance rates began to balloon for municipalities in the last few years, our BA has been looking into alternative plans. Last year NJ Solutions was discussed, and employees were notified about this possible alternative. All Borough employees asked the Mayor and Council not to switch carriers because this group was too new to the market to switch and there was the promise of relief from Trenton, which did not happen.

Again, this past year RE's budget was hit with a cost of \$473,000 for employee health insurance. This prompted another round of "shopping" by our BA for possible alternatives which was mentioned in the budget meetings. The shopping must be done through the Risk Manager using an Insurance Broker due to the complexity of medical insurance as per the NJ State Comptroller. The State Comptroller recommends letting insurance brokers do what they do best: evaluate the quality and cost of insurance. As we know getting information from the state takes some time. Our BA received the proposal that is being discussed just 3 weeks ago. NJ Solutions are here to present a viable alternative for the Mayor and Council to consider without the need to solicit claims history at this time.

Just a note, when my law firm changes insurance companies, I don't get a say. They don't ask me what I think as I am sure many in the corporate and/or public sector world can attest.

I could not attend the April 17<sup>th</sup> presentation but watched it after the fact. The State Treasurer's office released a report dated May 19, 2025, which was mentioned during the presentation, called Structural and Financial Challenges in the State Health Benefits Program for Local Government, Executive Summary. I would like to read into the record part of the conclusion to the report. The SHBP-Local Government program has reached an inflection point. What began as a commitment to offer affordable, high-quality coverage to public employees has become structurally unstable system, driven by adverse selection, diminished participation, and cost escalation. The plan's very high actuarial values, a depleted Claims Stabilization Reserve, and a static governance model have created a self-reinforcing loop of premium increases and employer exits – what actuaries commonly refer to as a "death spiral".

Local governments and state employees do not know what the rate will be in 2027, but we can surmise it will be "equal to or better than" last years increase.

Earlier this week, the State Treasurer testified that "based on the plan actuary's midyear reports and SHBP Local Government fund levels, it is possible that rate increases could be as high as the rate increases we experienced last year."

And in the summary of that report premiums for 2027 could be just under 40%, in 2028 50% and in 2029 60%.

With that said, the Mayor and Council hear our employees and their concerns. I believe at this time our best course of action for all involved would be to wait until we get the final numbers from the State, but preemptively request another round of the claims reports, and “shop around” if needed. Even under this scenario, since receipt of the claims reports already takes 60 days, the soonest we can expect to receive any proposals to consider would be late September to early October and we will need to make a decision before October 31st.”

It was noted that a meeting was held with the employees to discuss moving to this plan and a link to listen to the SHBP Design Committee meeting was also shared with employees. It was further noted that the employees do not wish to change at this time. After further discussion regarding the High Deductible Plan, it was the consensus of the governing body to wait until after the SHBP rates come out in July to make a decision on how to proceed. At that time, a claims history through the end of June will be requested to see if a change will be made to have in place by January 1<sup>st</sup>. Members of the governing body commended Borough Administrator Aportela on the work that she did regarding this matter.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA –**

On motion by Councilman Feffer, seconded by Councilwoman Kinsella, and all present voting in favor, to open for public comments on any item on the agenda.

Matt Piterski, River Edge PBA, thanked the Mayor and Council for taking the employees’ concerns into consideration regarding the health insurance matter. He expressed hope that the PBA can continue to have a seat at the table with this discussion.

On a motion by Councilwoman Malellari, seconded by Councilwoman Kinsella, and all present voting in favor, to close public comments on any item on the agenda.

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS –**

Mayor Papaleo advised that the following reports are on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk and available for review:

Fire Prevention - April 15, 2026

#### **RESOLUTIONS - By Consent**

- a. **#26-134** Approve Refunds – Recreation Department
- b. **#26-135** Approve Refund – Farmers Market
- c. **#26-136** Authorize Execution of Rental Agreement with Kol Dorot
- d. **#26-137** Refund Overpayment of Taxes Due to a 100% Disabled Veteran Tax-Exempt Status-Blueland Title Agency, Inc.
- e. **#26-138** Resolution Approving an Agreement with Affordable Cartage LLC For the Release of Escrowed Funds For Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services in Consideration of Receipt of an Indemnification from Affordable Cartage LL
- d. **#26-139** 2026 Salary Resolution

Motion by Councilwoman Malellari, second by Councilwoman Kinsella, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye*
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

Councilwoman Dhariwal recused herself from Resolution #26-134.

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**#26-140 Payment of Bills**

Councilwoman Kinsella read resolution #26-140 into the record:

At a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, held on April 23, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge approve the following expenditures.

CURRENT FUND	\$	2,543,349.36
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	\$	117,572.46
GRANT FUND	\$	4,974.40
ANIMAL CONTROL	\$	55.80
TRUST OTHER	\$	34,789.50
DEVELOPER'S ESCROW	\$	426.25
SELF INSURANCE TRUST	\$	13,397.57
RECREATION TRUST	\$	6,884.19

Motion by Councilwoman Malellari, second by Councilwoman Kinsella, that Resolution #26-140 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Montisano-Koen:	absent	Councilman Glass:	absent
Council President Kinsella:	aye	Councilwoman Dhariwal:	aye*
Councilwoman Malellari:	aye	Councilman Feffer:	aye

\*Councilwoman Dhariwal recused from check #68520, #68521, #68529, #68564, #68566, #68599, #3072, #3073, and #6185 through #6191.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

There was no New business.

## **OLD BUSINESS –**

### **Admin Report**

Borough Administrator Aportela reported on the following matters:

#### **Annual Safety Award Breakfast**

The Borough received the Platinum Award. Borough administrator Aportela expressed appreciation to the Risk Manager and Jason Milito, Safety Coordinator, Miriam Fabisiak, DPW Administrative Assistant, and Annmarie Schryver, Deputy Clerk, for their hard work in this regard.

#### **KBG:**

Significant progress has been made across the site. The turf installation was completed during the last week of March. Final grading of the field was completed in early April, followed by the installation of sod during the second week of April. The acrylic coating for the pickleball courts has also been completed.

In addition, the batting cage installation is complete, and the irrigation system has been installed, tested, and is fully operational, with only minor head adjustments remaining. The electrical work for the scoreboard has been completed as well, with final testing still pending.

Additional updates include the following:

- The softball field clay installation is being finalized today and is expected to be completed by tomorrow.
- Fence padding installation is currently in progress and is anticipated to be completed early next week.
- The dugouts are expected to be delivered toward the end of next week, with installation anticipated to take approximately three (3) days.
- At this time, all major project components, with the exception of the dugouts, are expected to be completed by next week.

While construction activities have progressed well and are aligned with the project schedule of May 1, there has been ongoing coordination with the DPW Director and Recreation Director regarding field readiness. Based on these discussions, it has been determined that the newly installed grass area should be allowed to properly establish. This process includes time for settling, growth, application of fertilizers and treatments, and at least two mowing cycles prior to use. As such, it is recommended that use of the grass field area be deferred until the end of May to ensure long-term durability and optimal performance of the field.

#### **Veolia:**

Replacement of water mains along Madison Avenue and Center Avenue to correct low-flow situations started on April 20, 2026. The water main installation will take place on Friday, April 24, 2026.

Mayor Papaleo added that they are awaiting PSE&G to complete Phase 2 of their high-pressure gas line installation. He noted that they have only completed Phase 2a and PSE&G has not given a solid timeframe for when the remainder of this phase will be completed.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS –**

Councilwoman Kinsella announced that the River Edge Run will take place on Saturday, rain or shine. She provided the event details which included the Fun Run, 5k, and Health Walk.

Councilwoman Dhariwal added that they have had people sign up to participate in the Historic Costume Contest which is being held in conjunction with the Fun Run.

Councilwoman Malellari thanked Borough Administrator Aportela for her work with respect to the health insurance issue.

## **CLOSED SESSION –**

On a motion from Councilwoman Kinsella, seconded by Councilwoman Malellari, and all present voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned to the Closed Executive Session via Resolution #26-141 at 8:34 pm.

### #26-141 Resolution to Go Into Closed Session and Exclude Public

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the public shall be excluded from the April 23, 2026 regular meeting and discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matter:
  - i. Attorney-Client Privilege – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7)  
Subcommittee Recommendation on RFQ
2. Formal action may/may not be taken.
3. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

## **ADJOURNMENT –**

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilwoman Dhariwal, second by Councilwoman Malellari, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dodd, RMC  
Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-128**

**Authorize Promotion of Michael McGinty to the Position of Police Captain**

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge (the "Borough") and the River Edge Superior Officers Association, an affiliate of the Police Benevolent Association, Local 201 (the "PBA") are parties to a collective negotiations agreement which will expire December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, due to the retirement of Captain Craig Casey, a vacancy in the position has been created; and

WHEREAS, Michael McGinty is currently employed by the Borough as a Lieutenant with the River Edge Police Department and is the only Lieutenant who sought the promotion to the position of Captain; and

WHEREAS, the SOA has previously entered into and ratified a sidebar agreement providing for the promotion of Michael McGinty from the position of Lieutenant to the position of Captain. (See Exhibit A attached hereto).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of River Edge authorizes and executes the sidebar agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that Police Lieutenant Michael McGinty is promoted to Captain effective April 23, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Captain McGinty's annual base salary shall be \$166,635 plus holiday pay and longevity effective July 1, 2026 pursuant to the Sidebar Agreement adopted on December 11, 2025 via Resolution #25-298.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari			X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer	X		X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-129**

**Authorize Promotion of Marc Abate to the Position of Police Lieutenant**

BE IT RESOLVED that, after a competitive process, Police Sergeant Marc Abate is hereby appointed as Police Lieutenant effective April 23, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Lt. Abate's annual base salary shall be \$164,771 plus holiday pay and longevity effective July 1, 2026 pursuant to the Sidebar Agreement adopted on December 11, 2025 via Resolution #25-298.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari			X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer	X		X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-130**

**Authorize Promotion of Edward Blue to the Position of Police Sergeant**

WHEREAS, a promotional list for the position of Police Sergeant was created after a competitive process on May 2, 2024 via Resolution #24-147 pursuant to Chapter 71-17(F) of the Borough Code listing Officer Edward Blue; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy currently exists for the position of Police Sergeant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Police Officer Edward Blue is hereby appointed as Police Sergeant effective April 23, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sgt. Blue's annual base salary shall be \$158,670 plus holiday pay effective July 1, 2026 pursuant to the Sidebar Agreement adopted on December 11, 2025 via Resolution #25-298.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari			X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer	X		X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-131**

**Resolution to Read Budget by Title Only**

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-8 permits that the Budget as advertised may be read by its title providing that at least one week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget shall

- a) be posted in a public place where public notices are customarily posted, and
- b) is made available to each person requesting the same during said week and during the public hearing, and


WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge has complied with the aforesaid requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Budget for the year ending December 31, 2026 shall be read by title only.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella	X		X			
Malellari		X	X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-132**

**Self-Exam Resolution**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination, and

WHEREAS N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5 the Borough of River Edge has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Borough of River Edge meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2026 budget year, so now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of River Edge that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification. The governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
  - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
  - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
  - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
  - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
  - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
  - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met (complies with the "CAP" law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
  - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated.
  - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
  - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced, publicly advertised, and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella	X		X			
Maellari		X	X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

## Certification of Approved Budget

It is hereby certified that the Approved Budget complies with the requirements of law and approval is given pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78(b) and NJAC 5:30-7.

It is further certified that the municipality has met the eligibility requirements of NJAC 5:30-7.4 and 7.5, and that I, as Chief Financial Officer, have completed the local examination in compliance with NJAC 5:30-7.6.

Dated March 26, 2026

By:   
Christopher Battaglia, Chief Financial Officer

This certification form and resolution of the governing body executing such certification should be annexed to the adopted budget (N.J.A.C. 5:30 7.6(e))

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-133**

**Adopting 2026 Municipal Budget**

WHEREAS, the 2026 Local Municipal Budget was approved by resolution #26-107 on March 26, 2026;  
and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-6 was advertised on the Borough website  
(<https://www.riveredgenj.org/publicnotices>) on March 27, 2026; and

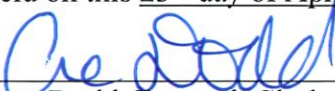
WHEREAS, a public hearing on the budget was held on April 23, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Local Municipal Budget appropriating \$22,876,293.62 be  
hereby adopted for the calendar year 2026.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella	X		X			
Malellari		X	X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-134**

**Approve Refunds – Recreation Department**

WHEREAS, participants of various programs offered by the River Edge Recreation Department have requested a refund; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator, Lissette Aportela, has reviewed the requests and recommended them for Mayor and Council approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, that the refunds listed below are hereby approved; and


RESIDENT	ADDRESS	PROGRAM	AMOUNT	ACCOUNT #
Caroline Weng	358 Oak Ave. River Edge, NJ 07661	Youth Tennis Lessons (2 Children)	\$300.00	T-18-55-286-001
Lauren Thiffualt	159 Greenway Terrace River Edge, NJ 07661	Youth Tennis Lessons	\$150.00	T-18-55-286-001
Weixi Yu	200 Webb Ave River Edge, NJ 07661	Adult Tennis Lessons	\$30.00	T-18-55-286-001

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Department and Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Montisano-Koen						X	
Kinsella		X	X				
Malellari	X		X				
Glass						X	
Dhariwal							X
Feffer			X				
Mayor Papaleo							

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-135**

**Approve Refund – Farmers Market**

WHEREAS, there is a need to refund Holy Cannoli paid for the health inspection fee in the amount of \$30.00 due to cancellation for the 2026 season.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, that the refunds listed below are hereby approved; and

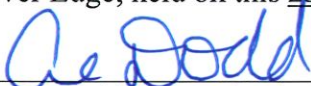
VENDOR	ADDRESS	AMOUNT
Holy Cannolis	52 Howard Street Lodi, NJ 07644	\$30

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Department.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari	X		X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-136**

**Authorize Execution of Rental Agreement with**  
**Kol Dorot**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge acknowledges that there is a need in River Edge for adequate facilities to conduct a meaningful and ongoing program as it relates to the recreational needs of the senior citizens of River Edge (SCORE); and

WHEREAS, Kol Dorot: a Reform Jewish Community, located at 385 Howland Avenue, River Edge, New Jersey has agreed to make available to the SCORE such facilities that are deemed necessary to carry out a senior citizens recreational program from May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-15(i), as well as N.J.S.A. 40A:48-9.4, permit the leasing and funding of facilities for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, Chief Financial Officer Chris Battaglia has certified funds are available for this rental agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the attached rental lease agreement.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari	X		X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**Certification of Availability of Funds**  
**NJAC 5:30-5**

Date: April 23, 2026

For Resolution #R26-136

To: Mayor and Council

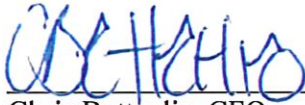
I hereby certify to the availability of public funds for the following specific purpose:

Purpose: Lease Agreement with Kol Dorot for SCORE from May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027

Line Item (or Ordinance) to be Charged:

6-01-27-360-100 - \$9950

7-01-27-360-100 - \$4975 - Contingent upon approval of the 2027 Budget



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Battaglia, CFO

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-137**

**REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES DUE TO A 100% DISABLED VETERAN**  
**TAX-EXEMPT STATUS-BLUELAND TITLE AGENCY, INC.**

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2026, via Resolution #26-111, the Mayor and Council approved a 100% Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption effective March 4, 2026, for Hyunho Park, residing at 855 Kinderkamack Road, River Edge, NJ 07661, also known as Block 206, Lot 7, Qualifier CT007, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 et seq. as amended by P.L. 2019, c.413; N.J.A.C. 18:28-1.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, an escrow account check in the amount of \$2,978.42 representing payment for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2026 property taxes was received from Blueland Title Agency, Inc., 460 Bergen Boulevard, Suite 204, Palisades Park, NJ 07650 and resulted in an overpayment of taxes due to the veteran tax-exempt status; and

WHEREAS, a written request was received from Blueland Title Agency, Inc. requesting a refund of the overpayment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Account Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a prorated refund in the amount of \$893.53 to Blueland Title Agency, Inc., 460 Bergen Boulevard, Suite 204, Palisades Park, NJ 07650 and the Tax Collector adjust her records accordingly.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Maellari	X		X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**

**RESOLUTION #26-138**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH AFFORDABLE CARTAGE LLC  
FOR THE RELEASE OF ESCROWED FUNDS FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION  
AND DISPOSAL SERVICES IN CONSIDERATION OF RECEIPT OF AN  
INDEMNIFICATION FROM AFFORDABLE CARTAGE LLC**

**WHEREAS** the Borough of New Milford and the Borough of River Edge entered into a Joint Purchasing Agreement for the public bidding of solid waste collection and disposal services; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the foregoing process each municipality entered into a contract with the lowest responsible bidder, Joseph Smenkowski, Inc., for a five-year contract; and

**WHEREAS** with each municipality's consent, Joseph Smenkowski, Inc. assigned its rights and obligations under said contracts to Affordable Cartage LLC on or about October 2024; and

**WHEREAS** a dispute has arisen between Joseph Smenkowski, Inc. and Affordable Cartage LLC; and

**WHEREAS** On March 4, 2025, a Verified Complaint was filed on behalf of Affordable Cartage, LLC against Thomas Giordano, The Estate of Gary E. Giordano (Diana Gasparano, Gary M. Giordano and Lisa Jett as Co-Administrators) and Joseph Smenkowski, Inc., trading as Galaxy Carting, bearing docket number BER-L-00045-25 ("the litigation"); and

**WHEREAS** Joseph Smenkowski, Inc. served upon both the Borough of New Milford and the Borough of River Edge a Notice of Garnishment and Demand for Payment of Receivables pursuant to UCC §9-404, 9-406 and 9-607, together with a Secured/Guaranteed Promissory Note, UCC-1 Financing Statement, copy of Assignment of Contract and copy of a Notice of Default and Notice of Acceleration of Payments by Joseph Smenkowski Inc. to Affordable Cartage LLC; and

**WHEREAS** both the Borough of New Milford and the Borough of River Edge served upon Affordable Cartage LLC a notice of receipt of the above-referenced Notice of Garnishment and Demand for Payment of Receivables and a notice that future payments due under the aforesaid contracts will be paid to Joseph Smenkowski Inc. pursuant thereto unless Affordable Cartage LLC sought judicial relief from the aforesaid garnishment; and

**WHEREAS** Affordable Cartage LLC responded that Affordable Cartage LLC disputes the existence of a valid UCC Financial Agreement and that there is a lawsuit between the parties presently pending in the Chancery Division; and

**WHEREAS** as a result of said dispute both Joseph Smenkowski Inc and Affordable Cartage were advised that the Borough of New Milford and the Borough of River Edge will hold the payments due under the contracts for solid waste collection and disposal in escrow pending a resolution between the parties or a court order directing where and to whom the payments are to be made; and

**WHEREAS** The Borough of River Edge and the Borough of New Milford have withheld the payment of fees owed to Affordable Cartage, LLC pursuant to their respective contracts for solid waste collection and disposal, during the pendency of the litigation; and

**WHEREAS** as of the date of this Agreement and pursuant to the above-mentioned contract, the Borough of New Milford owes Affordable Cartage, LLC, approximately \$308,656.29, which has been maintained in escrow during the pendency of the litigation; and

**WHEREAS** as of the date of this Agreement and pursuant to the above-mentioned contract, the Borough of River Edge to date owes Affordable Cartage, LLC \$312, 397.82, which has been maintained in escrow during the pendency of the litigation; and

**WHEREAS** Affordable Cartage, LLC agrees that the amount owing for each respective contract is as identified above and seeks release all monies owed pursuant to the Contracts, as identified above, by Friday, May 15, 2026; and

**WHEREAS,** Affordable Cartage, LLC has agreed to indemnify and hold harmless the Boroughs of New Milford and River Edge from any and all claims, actions, costs, expenses or liabilities imposed upon, incurred, or asserted against the Borough of New Milford and/or the Borough of River Edge as a result of the release of the payments identified herein during the litigation or for any other reason

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, Bergen County, New Jersey that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and the Borough Clerk to attest, an Agreement by and between the Borough of River Edge, the Borough of New Milford and Affordable Cartage LLC to release the escrowed funds being held by the Borough of River Edge to Affordable Cartage LLC in consideration for Affordable Cartage LLC indemnifying and holding harmless the Borough of River Edge from any and all claims, actions, costs, expenses or liabilities imposed upon, incurred, or asserted against the Borough of River Edge as a result of the release of the payments

identified herein during the litigation or for any other reason which shall continue until such time as the statute of limitations with respect to any claims or actions that could be brought against the Borough of River Edge, in any jurisdiction, for release of such amounts has expired. A copy of such Agreement is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk and is available for public inspection.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari	X		X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 3 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-139**

**2026 Salary Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED that the following officers and employees of the Borough of River Edge be compensated for the year 2026 in accordance with Ordinance #26-1 effective January 1, 2026 with the following base pay:

<u>EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>2026 SALARY</u>	<u>2026 HOURLY</u>
<b><u>MAYOR &amp; COUNCIL</u></b>			
PAPALEO, THOMAS R	MAYOR	\$5,000.00	
FEFFER, BRUCE	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
MALELLARI, KLODIANA	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
DHARIWAL, PRITI	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
KINSELLA, MATEE	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
MONTISANO-KOEN, LISSA	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
GLASS, DAVID SAMUEL	COUNCILPERSON	\$4,000.00	
<b><u>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</u></b>			
AORTELA, LISSETTE	BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR	\$190,498.50	
AORTELA, LISSETTE	AFFORDABLE HOUSING LIAISON	\$12,360.00	
DODD, ANNE	BOROUGH CLERK	\$112,029.10	
DODD, ANNE	ASSISTANT BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR	\$8,195.45	
SCHRYVER, ANNMARIE	DEPUTY CLERK	\$74,263.00	
<b><u>CONSTRUCTION/CODE ENFORCEMENT</u></b>			
DALESSIO, MICHAEL J.	ELECTRICAL SUB-CODE INSPECTOR	\$14,776.05	
DALESSIO, MICHAEL J.	BUILDING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	\$4,568.74	
PEPE, GARRETT	PLUMBING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL/PLUMBING INSPECTOR	\$19,344.79	
DEPKEN, STEPHEN A	CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL/BUILDING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL 1/BUILDING INSPECTOR	\$45,020.35	
DEPKEN, STEPHEN A	ZONING OFFICER	\$33,948.80	
SHNAPER, NICOLE L.	ASSISTANT ZONING OFFICER	\$89,040.09	
CAPASSO, ADRIENNE	TECHNICAL ASSISTANT TO CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL	\$59,135.10	
<b><u>OTHER CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS</u></b>			
DEROSA, ARTHUR P	PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OFFICER		\$34.35
<b><u>ASSESSMENT OF TAXES</u></b>			
ANZEVINO, JAMES A.	TAX ASSESSOR	\$32,404.52	
<b><u>FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION</u></b>			
BIRNBAUM, GOMATTIE S.	DEPUTY TREASURER/DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR	\$97,509.89	
BATTAGLIA, CHRISTOPHER	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	\$70,947.57	
GENOVESI, ANGELA	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK	\$61,902.99	

GENOVESI, ANGELA	PURCHASING ASSISTANT	\$5,304.50	
DEMCZUK, MELISSA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/FINANCE & CLERK	\$47,740.50	
DEMCZUK, MELISSA	DEPUTY REGISTRAR	\$2,575.00	
DEMCZUK, MELISSA	BOROUGH WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR	\$2,575.00	
<b><u>REVENUE ADMINISTRATION</u></b>			
MATI, DEBRA	TAX COLLECTOR	\$27,822.58	
<b><u>LEGAL</u></b>			
CRUSIUS, ELSEBETH	PROSECUTOR	\$15,000.00	
<b><u>LAND USE BOARD</u></b>			
HALL, JESSICA			\$30.00
CIAVARELLA, LISA			\$27.26
<b><u>MUNICIPAL COURT</u></b>			
PATORAY, NOREEN P.	COURT ADMINISTRATOR	\$88,000.69	
ARIYAN, JOSEPH	MUNICIPAL JUDGE	\$20,000.00	
GRIMALDI, JAIMIE	PART-TIME		\$36.05
<b><u>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</u></b>			
FAUSTINI, ARLENE	NURSE	\$45,985.31	
<b><u>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</u></b>			
SANDERS, WILLIAM	OEM COORDINATOR	\$11,592.74	
CARROLL, CORNELIUS	DEPUTY OEM COORDINATOR	\$1,854.83	
KIELY, COLLEEN	CLERK/TYPIST		\$32.89
<b><u>FIRE PREVENTION</u></b>			
SILVERMAN, ALAN J	FIRE OFFICIAL	\$24,746.94	
SILVERMAN, ALAN J	FIRE SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	\$11,255.09	
LEONARDI, RALPH	INSPECTOR		\$31.97
KIELY, COLLEEN	CLERK/TYPIST		\$32.89
DEVRIES, PETER	INSPECTOR		\$31.97
DREW, WILLIAM	INSPECTOR		\$33.68
<b><u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u></b>			
KIELY, COLLEEN	CLERK/TYPIST		\$32.89
<b><u>RECREATION/OPEN SPACE</u></b>			
RICCA, JOSEPH	RECREATION DIRECTOR	\$92,418.16	
JABLONSKI, DAN	ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION		\$34.48
DESANCTIS, MICHAEL	PARK ATTENDANT		\$27.11
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u></b>			
MILITO, JASON J.	DPW SUPERINTENDENT	\$193,720.34	
LEISHMAN, CHRISTOPHR	DPW ROAD FOREMAN - LEGACY	\$118,238.41	
STEPHEN, RICHARD	DPW ROAD FOREMAN - LEGACY	\$118,238.41	
ADER, SCOTT W.	DPW ROAD FOREMAN - LEGACY	\$118,238.41	

PHILLIPS, ERIC	TREE SUPERVISOR	\$102,705.80
HESSMAN, LISA	DPW OFFICE MANAGER/ADMIN ASSISTANT/RECYCLING COORDINATOR	\$92,560.65
FABISIAK, MIRAM	DPW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/SENIOR BUS COORDINATOR	\$65,086.22
DPW FOREPERSON	STEP 1	\$103,853.85
DPW FOREPERSON	STEP 2	\$108,648.71
DPW FOREPERSON	STEP 3	\$113,443.56
DPW FOREPERSON	STEP 4	\$118,238.41

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WALKER, MICHAEL J	POLICE CHIEF	\$213,081.77
AIELLO, DEBORAH	POLICE SECRETARY	\$61,902.99
BYRNE, CAROL M.	POLICE RECORDS CLERK	\$56,275.44
BYRNE, CAROL M.	POLICE RECORDS CLERK/CUSTODIAN EFFECTIVE 04/01/2026	\$65,000.00
MAUTHE, JOHN H	DISPATCHER	\$57,963.70

CLASS 2 OFFICER (SLEO 2)		\$45.00
CLASS 3 OFFICER (SLEO 3)	2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR	\$39.25
CLASS 3 OFFICER (SLEO 3)	2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR	\$40.43

CROSSING GUARD	DURING TRAINING	\$20.00
CROSSING GUARD	AFTER TRAINING	\$26.00

DISPATCHER	STEP 1	\$25.71
DISPATCHER	STEP 2	\$26.47
DISPATCHER	STEP 3	\$27.87

**SEWER SYSTEM**

PAMPALONI JR., JOHN P.	SEWER OPERATOR	\$6,779.54
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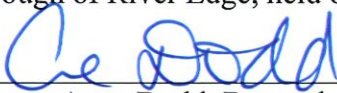
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any formal action by a governing body approving or disapproving a measure establishing or modifying the salaries, benefits, or other compensation of its employees shall occur no earlier than the tenth calendar day immediately following the meeting at which the measure was introduced and discussed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the actions of the Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Treasurer and Payroll Clerk to pay these salaries and wages effective January 1, 2026 is hereby ratified.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						
Kinsella						
Malellari						
Glass						
Dhariwal						
Feffer						
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 4 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-140**

**Payment of Bills**

At a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, held on April 23, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge approve the following expenditures.

CURRENT FUND	\$	2,543,349.36
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	\$	117,572.46
GRANT FUND	\$	4,974.40
ANIMAL CONTROL	\$	55.80
TRUST OTHER	\$	34,789.50
DEVELOPER'S ESCROW	\$	426.25
SELF INSURANCE TRUST	\$	13,397.57
RECREATION TRUST	\$	6,884.19

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella		X	X			
Malellari	X		X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X*			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

\*Councilwoman Dhariwal recused from check #68520, #68521, #68529, #68564, #68566, #68599, #3072, #3073, and #6185 through #6191.

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE**  
**RESOLUTION #26-141**

**Resolution to Enter Into Closed Session**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the public shall be excluded from the April 23, 2026 regular meeting and discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matter:
  - A. Attorney – Client Privilege – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7)
    1. Subcommittee Recommendation on RFQ
    2. Formal action may/may not be taken.
    3. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

April 23, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						X
Kinsella	X		X			
Malellari		X	X			
Glass						X
Dhariwal			X			
Feffer			X			
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 1 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 23rd day of April, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk