



MINUTES

Sine Die Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Monday, January 6, 2025
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER –

The Sine Die Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge was held in person at the River Edge Public Library located at 685 Elm Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661 and virtually via Zoom on Monday, January 6, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Thomas Papaleo.

SILENT PRAYER – FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Papaleo called for a moment of silent reflection in memory of President Carter. Council President Montisano-Koen led those present in the salute to the flag.

STATEMENT –

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 December 10, 2024 of this location, date and time to the Town News and the Record and by posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough Web Site and filing a notice of the same with the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL –

PRESENT: Council President Montisano-Koen, Councilwoman Malellari, Councilman Benson, Councilman Glass, Mayor Papaleo

ABSENT: Councilwoman Kaufman, Councilwoman Kinsella

ALSO

PRESENT: Borough Administrator Lissette Aportela
Borough Attorney William Rupp, Esq.

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNEL CHANGES –

On a motion by Council President Montisano-Koen, seconded by Councilwoman Malellari, and all present voting in favor that the following Appointments and Personnel Changes be approved:

Appoint Melissa Capolete, Administrative Assistant as Borough Website Administrator effective 1/1/2025

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA –

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

No one came forward.

On a motion by Council President Montisano-Koen, seconded by Councilman Benson, and all present voting in favor, to close the floor for public comments.

RESOLUTIONS - By Consent

- a. **#24-357** Amend Contract – Architectural Services – Borough Hall Addition and Renovation – Arcari & Iovino Architects, PC
- b. **#24-358** Approve Additional Engineering Services – FY24 CDBG Sewer Replacement at Kinderkamack Rd
- c. **#24-359** Appoint Municipal Housing Liaison
- d. **#24-360** Amend Employment Agreement – Borough Administrator
- e. **#24-361** Approve Refunds – Farmers Market
- f. **#24-362** Approve Change Order #17 – Borough Hall Addition & Alterations
- g. **#24-363** Approve the Hire of SLEO II
- h. **#24-364** Resolution Authorizing Budget Transfers for Calendar Year 2024

i. **#24-365** Authorize Tax Collector to Cancel the 2024 Added Assessment Taxes Due to a County Board Judgment

On a motion by Council President Montisano-Koen, seconded by Councilwoman Malellari, and all present voting in favor that the Consent Agenda be approved.

#24-366 - Payment of Bills

Councilman Glass read resolution #24-366 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 January 5, 2025.

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

CURRENT FUND	\$692,032.68
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	\$678,949.99
PAYROLL	\$20,999.24
UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST	\$2,289.60
DEVELOPER'S ESCROW	\$1,450.00
RECREATION TRUST	\$266.97

On a motion by Councilman Glass, seconded by Council President Montisano-Koen, that Resolution #24-366 be approved.

The vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Kaufman:	absent	Councilwoman Malellari:	aye
Council President Montisano-Koen:	aye	Councilman Benson:	aye
Councilwoman Kinsella:	absent	Councilman Glass:	aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

On a motion by Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Glass, and all present voting in favor, to open the floor for public comments.

No one came forward

On a motion by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilman Benson, and all present voting in favor, to close the floor for public comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS –

Councilman Benson enjoyed being liaison to the River Edge Fire Department this past year. He noted that it has been a pleasure working with Chief Schlossberg, commended the Chief’s leadership and expressed gratitude for the volunteers who serve in the department. Councilman Benson highlighted this year’s accomplishments which included the completion of almost 40 training events, support of community events, responding to 340 fire calls including marine rescues, responding to a recent major gas leak at the New Bridge shopping center, responding to mutual aid calls and responding to motor vehicle accidents.

Mayor Papaleo concurred with Councilman Benson’s comments and stated that the Borough is lucky to have a growing fire department. Mayor Papaleo expressed gratitude for all Borough employees and volunteers. He also thanked Councilwoman Kaufman for her service to the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilwoman Malellari, seconded by Council President Montisano-Koen, and unanimously carried to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Aportela
Borough Administrator