

**MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST RUTHERFORD
MAYOR & COUNCIL
RE ORGANIZATION MEETING HELD ON
JANUARY 1, 2019
AT ONE EVERETT PLACE**

The Re Organization Meeting was called to order by Mayor Cassella at 11:38AM

Mayor Cassella asked the Clerk to read the results of the November, 2018 election.

COUNCILMEN: Daniel Alvarez (3 year term)
 Michael Lorusso (3 year term)

Senator Paul Sarlo came forward to swear in Councilman Alvarez and Councilman Lorusso

Flag Salute was held

Mayor Cassella asked the Clerk to take the roll call:

ROLL CALL:

Councilmember	Present	Absent
Stallone	X	
Ravettine	X	
Cronk	X	
Sorbera	X	
Alvarez	X	
Lorusso	X	

Fr. ST Sutton was present to give the invocation

Mayor Cassella read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

This meeting is the Re Organization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford and is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting was transmitted to the three newspapers listed below on December 5, 2018, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Cassella asked for a nomination for Council President for 2019.

A motion was made to nominate Philip Sorbera as Council President for 2019:

Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Councilman Sorbera was then sworn in by Senator Paul Sarlo as Council President for 2019.

Mayor Cassella submitted the following 2019 list of crossing guards for appointment:

CROSSING GUARDS FOR THE YEAR 2019

Judy Brune	Randy Bulger	Robin Doyle
Gina Gentile	Christian Gil	Karen Greco
Donna Guz	Theresa Hugo	Darlene Kassner
Melissa Kruse	Teotiste Mejia-Arias	Lori Michalski
Diane Minervini	Cynthia Morris	Maria Nelson
Alice Neubauer	Vicky O'Brien	Barbara Olivari
Audra Palsi	Alan Prontiker	Jose Pulgar
Donna Rigano	Carol Roth	Miriam Sanchez
Gerardo Sandoval	Kelly Schanel	Doris Schrialdi
Hanesh Shah	Kimberly Solimine	Tammy Verdugo Gil
Judy Triguero	Robert Triguero	John Wesolowski
Cornelia Weiss	Paul Weiss	
Kay Wilson	Danielle Zuwatsky	

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Mayor Cassella submitted the following resolutions for approval:

RESOLUTION #1 - 2019

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:5-14 requires every municipality to annually adopt a cash management plan and to designate official depositories for the funds of the borough;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has recommended and the Mayor and Council concur with the cash management plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford that Capital One Bank, Rutherford, NJ and all banks in New Jersey be designated as the official depositories of the funds of the Borough of East Rutherford;

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to purchase and arrange safe keeping investments allowed by N.J.S. 40A:5-15.1 from any financial institution within the State of New Jersey offering the best competitive rate.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #2 - 2019

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford that The Record, The Herald, The Star Ledger and The Bergenite be designated as the official newspapers of the Borough for the year 2019.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #3 – 2019

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the Governing Body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for nonpayment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 has been amended to permit the fixing of said rate of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 and allows an additional penalty of 6% to be collected against a delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year;

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

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of taxes becoming delinquent after due date and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00 becoming delinquent after due date and if a delinquency is in excess of \$10,000.00 and remains in arrears beyond December 31, an additional penalty of 6% shall be charged against the delinquency. Real estate taxes for 2018 will be advertised for sale after March 1, 2019.
2. Effective January 1, 2019 there will be a ten-day grace period of quarterly tax payments made by cash, check or money order.
3. Any payments not made in accordance with paragraph two of the resolution shall be charged interest from the due date as set forth in paragraph one of this resolution.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #4 - 2019

WHEREAS, the statutory maximum interests permitted to be charged for unpaid fees is one and one-half (1 ½%) percent per month;

WHEREAS, the East Rutherford Public Works & Utilities Commission has a policy of charging one (1 ½ %) percent per month interest on any unpaid balances; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council that effective January 1, 2019, all past due balances to the East Rutherford Public Works & Utilities Commission shall accrue interest at the rate of one and one-half (1 ½%) percent per month.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #5 – 2019

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, that the 2019 meetings of the Governing Body will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers of the East Rutherford Municipal Building located at One Everett Place, unless otherwise noted.* The work session meeting will begin at 6:00PM and the regular session meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

JANUARY 22, 2019*

JULY 16, 2019

FEBRUARY 19, 2019

AUGUST 20, 2019

MARCH 19, 2019

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

APRIL 16, 2019

OCTOBER 15, 2019

MAY 21, 2019

NOVEMBER 12, 2019*

JUNE 18, 2019

DECEMBER 17, 2019

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Cronk
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #6 - 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford that the Mayor and/or the Municipal Clerk will sign all municipal contracts for the year 2019.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Cronk
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #7 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

WHEREAS, George O. Savino has served as Judge of the Borough of East Rutherford diligently and successfully in the past; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford as follows:

1. George O. Savino is hereby appointed to a new term as Judge of the Municipal Court of the Borough of East Rutherford and shall be paid for such services a sum that shall be fixed by the Governing Body in the annual Salary Ordinance.
2. This appointment is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1)(a) of the Local Public Contract Law as public bidding for such qualitative and professional services would be inappropriate and impractical.
3. The above appointment is hereby awarded for the term of three (3) calendar years, being January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021.
4. A notice of this action shall be printed once in a newspaper authorized by law to publish its legal advertisements.

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #8 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF PW & UC ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a PW&UC Attorney who shall give all legal counsel and advice required by the Governing Body on all matters of P.W. & U.C. business. It shall be the duty of the Attorney to take all legal actions requested by the Governing Body and to follow up immediately; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Charles H. Sarlo, Esq., of Heights Plaza, 777 Terrace Avenue – 6th floor, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604 is hereby appointed for one (1) year as the PW&UC Attorney to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by a person(s) authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law.
3. The Attorney shall be paid a sum of \$6,000.00 annually which shall include all work to be performed for the East Rutherford P.W. & U.C., attendance at all meetings, all communications and correspondence, both telephone and written and any other normal activities required of the attorney.
4. This contract is awarded as a non-fair and open process. The appointee has not made any contributions to any candidate, political party or other organization which would disqualify him from appointment under this process. The appointee shall sign such certifications and other documents as required by law to confirm this eligibility.
5. A notice of this action shall be published once in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford, according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #9 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Attorney to give all legal counsel and advice required by the Governing Body on all matters of Borough business. It shall be the duty of the Borough Attorney to take all legal actions requested by the Governing Body and to follow up immediately; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Gerald R. Salerno, Esq. of the firm Aronsohn Weiner Salerno & Kaufman, PC, Court Plaza South – East Wing, 21 Main Street, Suite 100, Hackensack, NJ is hereby appointed Borough Attorney to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Gerald R. Salerno, Esq. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Cronk
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #10 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH AUDITOR

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Auditor to take all action required by the Governing Body and follow up immediately with regard to all financial information and accounting needed by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Paul W. Garbarini, CPA, RMA, PSA, CMFO of the firm Garbarini & Co. P.C., Division Avenue & Route 17S, Carlstadt, NJ 07072 is hereby appointed Borough Auditor to perform all necessary financial and accounting services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Garbarini & Co. P.C. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #11A - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF INSURANCE CONSULTANT/RISK MANAGER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of an Insurance Consultant/Agent to take all action required by the Governing Body and follow up immediately with regard to all services pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the required insurance coverage will be provided through the South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund as permitted by Chapter 372 of the Laws of 1983 (40A:10-36) and the remainder will be provided through the normal channels of private insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. James V. Gardella of the firm Professional Insurance Associates, Inc., 429 Hackensack Street, Carlstadt, NJ 07072 is hereby appointed Insurance Consultant/Agent to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Professional Insurance Associates, Inc. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #11B - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF INSURANCE CONSULTANT FOR THE
BERGEN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of an Insurance Consultant/Agent to take all action required by the Governing Body and follow up immediately with regard to all services pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the required insurance coverage will be provided through the Bergen Municipal Employee Benefit Fund (dental only) as permitted by Chapter 372 of the Laws of 1983 (40A:10-36) and the remainder will be provided through the normal channels of private insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. James V. Gardella of the firm Professional Insurance Associates, Inc., 429 Hackensack Street, Carlstadt, NJ 07072 is hereby appointed Insurance Consultant/Agent to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Professional Insurance Associates, Inc. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #12 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ENGINEER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Engineer to take all action required by the Governing Body and follow up immediately with regard to all engineering services; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Glenn M. Beckmeyer, P.E., P.P., CME of the firm Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C., 39 Paterson Avenue, Wallington, NJ 07057 is hereby appointed Borough Engineer to perform all necessary engineering services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Cronk

Second: Councilman Stallone

Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #13 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH PLANNER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Planner to provide services in connection with various borough matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The firm of Phillips Preiss Grygiel, LLC, 33-44 Newark Street, 3rd floor, Suite D, Hoboken, NJ 07030 is hereby appointed Borough Planner to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Phillips Preiss Grygiel, LLC of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #14 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH APPRAISER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Appraiser to provide services in connection with various borough matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. McNerney & Associates, Inc., 266 Harristown Road, PO Box 67, Glen Rock, NJ 07452-0067 is hereby appointed Borough Appraiser to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and McNerney & Associates, Inc. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone

Second: Councilman Cronk

Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #15 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF PW & UC ENGINEER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Public Works and Utilities Commission Engineer to provide services in connection with various PW & UC matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The firm Neglia Engineering Associates, 34 Park Avenue, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071 is hereby appointed PW & UC Engineer to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Neglia Engineering Associates of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Cronk
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #16 -2019
APPOINTMENT OF TAX APPEAL COUNSEL/ SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Tax Appeal Counsel to provide legal counsel and services in connection with tax appeals; and

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of Special Legal Counsel to provide legal counsel and services in connection with various borough matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Stephen P. Sinisi, Esq. of the Law Office of Stephen Sinisi, Two Sears Drive, 2nd floor, Paramus, NJ 07653 is hereby appointed to the positions of Tax Appeal Counsel and Special Legal Counsel to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Stephen Sinisi, Esq. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #17 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL PROJECTS ENGINEER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Special Projects Engineer to provide services in connection with various borough matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The firm of Neglia Engineering Associates, 34 Park Avenue, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071 is hereby appointed Borough Special Projects Engineer to perform all necessary services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Neglia Engineering Associates of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #18 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Special Counsel to handle various matters as needed; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. James T. Novello, Esq. of 37 Liberty Street, Little Ferry, NJ 07643 is hereby appointed to the position of Special Council to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and James T. Novello, Esq. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone

Second: Councilman Cronk

Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #19 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH PROSECUTOR

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Borough Prosecutor to prosecute cases to be tried before the Borough Court alleging a violation of the criminal laws of the State of New Jersey, the Ordinances of the Borough, the Motor Vehicle Statutes of the State of New Jersey, and such other cases as may be designated by the Governing Body and appear before the Council upon its request to prosecute any matter which may be within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The contract for the position of Borough Prosecutor is hereby awarded to Adam Boyle, Esq. of the firm Fronzuto Law Group, 3 Garret Mountain Plaza, Woodland Park, NJ 07424.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Adam Boyle, Esq. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone

Second: Councilman Sorbera

Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #20 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Public Defender for whom it shall be the duty to represent indigent defendants in the Municipal Court when a defendant is charged with an offense, the conviction of which carries the possibility of a sentence or imprisonment; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The contract for the position of Municipal Public Defender is hereby awarded to John Bruno, Jr. Esq. of Bruno and Ferraro, 301 Route 17N, Rutherford, NJ 07070
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and John Bruno, Jr. Esq. of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #21 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE BOROUGH PROSECUTOR

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of an Alternate Borough Prosecutor who shall serve in the absence of the Borough Prosecutor to prosecute cases to be tried before the Municipal Court alleging a violation of the criminal laws of the State of New Jersey, the Ordinances of the Borough, the Motor Vehicle Statutes of the State of New Jersey, and such other cases as may be designated by the Governing Body and appear before the Council upon its request to prosecute any matter which may be within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The contract for the position of Alternate Borough Prosecutor is hereby awarded to the Law Firm of Kellie Reyes, 490 Windsor Road, Wood Ridge, NJ 07075.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Kellie Reyes of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #22 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF LABOR ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Labor Attorney to provide legal counsel and services in connection with personnel matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Bratti Greenan of 1040 Broad Street, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702 is hereby appointed as Labor Attorney to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Bratti Greenan of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Ravettine
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #23 - 2019
APPOINTMENT OF BOND COUNSEL

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of East Rutherford a need for the services of a Bond Counsel to provide legal counsel and services in connection with bond ordinances and procedures and public finance matters; and

WHEREAS, such services involve such qualified services and knowledge that specifications cannot reasonably be formulated, and public bidding is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 of the Local Public Contracts Law exempts professional services from public bidding; and

WHEREAS, this appointment has been made pursuant to the Fair and Open process of the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law ("Pay to Play Law"), N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq., and the Borough's financial officer has certified that the necessary funds are available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford, New Jersey, as follows:

1. Archer & Greiner of Court Plaza South – East Wing, 21 Main Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601 is hereby appointed as Bond Counsel to perform all necessary counseling and legal services, and any and all advice and assistance relating to such services with respect to any and all matters assigned by the Borough of East Rutherford.
2. It is hereby determined that such services involve such qualitative and professional services that specifications are not practical and public bidding is not appropriate, feasible or required.
3. Such appointment shall be subject to the preparation and execution by the Borough and Archer & Greiner of a professional services contract whose term shall begin on January 1, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of East Rutherford according to law.

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Ravettine
Roll Call: All present voted aye

RESOLUTION #24 – 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of East Rutherford in accordance with the requirements of NJS 40A:4-19 of Local Budget Law, the following temporary budget be adopted for the period between the beginning of the budget year and the adoption of the final budget.

2019 TEMPORARY BUDGET

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Administrative and Executive

Salaries and Wages	68,200.00
Other Expenses	7,300.00
Other Expenses-Code Publishing	3,000.00

Mayor and Council

Salaries and Wages	10,000.00
Other Expenses	8,100.00

Elections

Other Expenses	3,000.00
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Financial Administration

Salaries and Wages	25,700.00
Other Expenses	
Annual Audit	0.00
Misc. Other Expenditures	24,000.00

Purchasing

Salaries and Wages	1,000.00
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Assessment of Taxes

Salaries and Wages	18,900.00
Other Expenses	40,000.00

Ordinance Enforcement

Salaries and Wages	3,700.00
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Redevelopment Agency

Salaries and Wages	1,000.00
(R.S. 40:550-1) Other Expenses	4,000.00

Collection of Taxes

Salaries and Wages	31,100.00
Other Expenses	4,000.00

Management Information Systems

Other Expenses	25,000.00
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Legal Services and Costs

Other Expenses	122,000.00
Tax Appeals	
Professional Fees	46,100.00
Engineering Services and Costs	
Other Expenses	32,100.00
Public Buildings and Grounds	
Other Expenses	46,200.00
Contracted Services	138,200.00
Municipal Land Use Law-Planning Board	
Salaries and Wages	2,000.00
Other Expenses	5,900.00
Zoning Board of Adjustment	
Salaries and Wages	2,000.00
Other Expenses	5,900.00
Municipal Court	
Salaries and Wages	69,000.00
Other Expenses	14,300.00
Insurance	
Liability	170,600.00
Workmen's Compensation	208,000.00
Employee Group	700,000.00
Self-Insurance Eye Care	6,100.00
Rent Control Board	
Salaries and Wages	500.00
Other Expenses	100.00
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>	
Fire	
Clothing Allowance	0.00
Other Expenses Operating/Gear Maint	50,000.00
Other Expenses Lease/Purchase Computer	
Equipment	22,000.00
Fire Alarm System	
Fire Prevention & Life Safety	
Salary and Wages	
Fire Official	30,000.00
Other Salaries-Inspectors	10,000.00
Other Expenses	4,700.00

Police	
Salaries and Wages	1,424,500.00
Overtime	102,400.00
Sickpay	24,900.00
Other Expenses	33,600.00
Police Cars Leasing Expense	10,700.00
Special Police	
Salaries and Wages	44,400.00
Other Expenses	300.00
Traffic Lights	
Other Expenses	5,500.00
Traffic Control	
Salaries and Wages	84,500.00
Other Expenses	100.00
First Aid Organization	
Other Expenses	5,400.00
Emergency Management Services	
Salaries and Wages	0.00
Other Expenses	2,100.00
First Responder	
Salaries and Wages	12,100.00
Towing Director	
Salaries and Wages	3,100.00
<u>STREETS AND ROADS</u>	
Roads Repairs and Maintenance	
Salaries and Wages	233,100.00
Other Expenses	21,000.00
Recycling Costs	9,600.00
Leased Vehicles	13,700.00
<u>HEALTH AND WELFARE</u>	
Health Department	
Other Expenses	25,000.00

RECREATION AND EDUCATION

Board of Recreation Comm. (R.S. 4061-1 et. seq.)

Salaries and Wages 13,100.00

Other Expenses 28,900.00

Celeb. of Public Events, Anniv. or Holiday

Other Expenses 3,300.00

Senior Citizens

Salaries and Wages 12,200.00

Other Expenses 2,600.00

SANITATION

Garbage and Trash Removal

Salaries and Wages 155,700.00

Dumping Fees

Sanitary Landfill-Contractual 90,000.00

STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE

Salaries and Wages

Construction Official 9,000.00

Sub Code Officials

Plumbing Inspector 5,000.00

Fire Inspector 5,000.00

Electrical Inspector 5,000.00

Other Salaries 21,300.00

Building Sub-Code Official 6,000.00

Other Expenses 5,400.00

UNCLASSIFIED:

UTILITIES

Street Lighting	84,000.00
Gasoline	36,800.00
Electricity	71,000.00
Telephone & Telegraph	39,900.00
Water	13,100.00
Fire Hydrant Service	35,000.00
Purchase of Postage	10,500.00
Vehicle Maintenance	
Salaries and Wages	22,600.00
Other Expenses	65,000.00

TOTAL	4,760,099.995
Contingent	500.00
TOTAL OPERATIONS INCLUDING CONTINGENT	4,760,600.00

STATUTORY EXPENDITURES

Social Security (O.A.S.I.)	96,400.00
	0.00

TOTAL DEFERRED AND STATUTORY	96,400.00
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TOTAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	4,857,000.00
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Maintenance of Free Public Library	181,300.00
Tax Appeal Reserve	50,000.00
	0.00
Totals	231,300.00

Capital Improvement Fund	200,000.00
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TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	200,000.00
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MUNICIPAL DEBT SERVICE

Payment of Bond Principal	3,257,795.93
Payment of Bond Anticipation Notes & Capital Notes	0.00
Interest on Bonds	1,356,457.92
Interest on Notes	0.00
Green Acres Trust Loan Program:	
Loan Repayments for Principal & Interest	59,983.36

TOTAL MUNICIPAL DEBT SERVICE	<u>4,674,237.21</u>
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TOTAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	<u>9,962,537.21</u>
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Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Mayor Cassella made the following Committee Appointments:

Zoning Board

Put forth the name of Derek Sands to become a regular member of the Zoning Board and reappointed Rich Krajunas:

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Ravettine
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Library Board & Community Development

Put forth the name of Councilman Sorbera to serve as his appointment to the library board as well as the Community Development Representative

Planning Board

Put forth the name of Councilman Stallone to serve as the Governing Body representative for the Planning Board:

Moved: Councilman Sorbera
Second: Councilman Ravettine
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Recreation Committee

Put for the names of Carlo Maucione, Sally Bulger, Jason Bulger, Joann Dezego and Jack Schanel to serve on the Committee

Mayor Cassella read the following 2019 Council Committee appointments:

	Councilman Sorbera	Councilman Ravettine	Councilman Stallone	Councilman Cronk	Councilman Alvarez	Councilman Lorusso
Chair	Finance	DPW	Police	Fire	ER BOE	Civic Affairs
	Building Dept	Recycling	Court	Recreation	Becton BOE	Personnel
	LEPC	Bldg & Grounds	Planning Board	LEPC	IT	
	Library	PW&UC				
		Vehicle Maint.				
		Open Space				

Co-Chair	Police	Building Dept	Recreation	ER BOE	Civic Affairs	Finance
	Court		Vehicle Maint.	Becton BOE		Bldg.& Grounds
	Fire			Personnel		Planning Board
	Open Space					IT
						DPW
						Recycling

Judge Savino was then sworn in by Mayor Cassella.

Mayor Cassella read his 2019 New Year's Address:

WELCOME AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON THIS FIRST DAY OF 2019;

HOPEFULLY YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON HAS BEEN ONE OF JOY AND WAS SPENT WITH THOSE CLOSEST TO YOU.

I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO THANK SENATOR SARLO FOR TAKING TIME OUT OF HIS BUSY SCHEDULE TO JOIN US TODAY.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COUNCILMEN DANIEL ALVEREZ AND MICHAEL LORUSSO ON BEING SWORN INTO THEIR FIRST TERMS AS MEMBERS OF THE EAST RUTHERFORD GOVERNING BODY.

MY BEST WISHES TO BOTH OF YOU FOR SUCCESS AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER IN 2019.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY SINCERE THANK YOU TO COUNCILMAN JEFFERY LAHULLIER FOR HIS 15 YEARS ON THIS COUNCIL, SERVING THE PEOPLE OF EAST RUTHERFORD.

HE DEVOTED MUCH OF HIS TIME TO THIS BODY AND WILL BE MISSED.

ALSO, THANK YOU TO COUNCILMAN TOM BANCA FOR ADMIRABLY FILLING THE VACANT COUNCIL SEAT THAT WAS CREATED WHEN OUR GOOD FRIEND AND LONG TIME COUNCILMAN GEORGE PERRY UNEXPECTEDLY PASSED AWAY IN JUNE OF 2018,

COUNCILMAN PERRY, A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF EAST RUTHERFORD, WAS BORN ON MARCH 20TH, 1951 AND RAISED HERE, IN A FAMILY DEDICATED TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

HE WENT TO OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS, GRADUATING FROM EAST RUTHERFORD HIGH SCHOOL

HE SERVED OUR COMMUNITY IN MANY CAPACITIES, MUCH OF WHICH WAS ASSOCIATED WITH OUR RECREATION PROGRAMS AND HE WAS ALWAYS EAGER TO LEND A HELPING HAND TO ANYONE WHO NEEDED ONE.

HE WAS ELECTED TO THE COUNCIL IN 2000; I WAS HONORED TO HAVE SWORN IN COUNCILMAN PERRY ON JANUARY 1ST, 2001 AND HE SERVED CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL JUNE 28TH, 2018 WHEN HE PASSED AWAY.

WE THANK HIS FAMILY FOR GIVING UP SO MUCH OF THE TIME THEY COULD HAVE SPENT WITH HIM SO HE COULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF EAST RUTHERFORD.

WE WILL MISS HIM, CERTAINLY FOR HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE OF EAST RUTHERFORD, BUT MOSTLY FOR HIS FRIENDSHIP.

THANK YOU COUNCILMAN PERRY AND MAY YOU REST IN PEACE.

SADLY, THIS PAST YEAR, WE LOST A NUMBER OF LONG TIME EAST RUTHERFORD RESIDENTS AND PEOPLE WHO SERVED OUR COMMUNITY.

ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE PASSED ON, WE WILL CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THEM IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

ON A POSITIVE NOTE IN 2018 WE CONTINUED WITH OUR ROAD PROGRAM; A NUMBER OF STREETS WERE REPAVED WITH MORE SLATED TO BE DONE IN 2019, INCLUDING CARLTON AVE. WHICH HOPEFULLY WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE SPRING

WE'VE ADDED 4 NEW POLICE OFFICERS IN 2018, ALL WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THEIR TRAINING AT THE POLICE ACADEMY AND ARE NOW PART OF OUR PATROL PLUS WE HAVE ADDED TO OUR FORCE 2 CLASS III OFFICERS WHICH IS A NEW POSITION CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE TO HELP MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS ADDRESS SECURITY CONCERNS IN OUR SCHOOLS.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS PAST YEAR WE CONTINUED TO SEE MASS SHOOTINGS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE INCLUDING STUDENTS.

IT SEEMS AS IF NO STATE, NO MUNICIPALITY, NO SCHOOL, LARGE OR SMALL, NO AGE GROUP ARE IMMUNE FROM THESE INCOMPREHENSIBLE ACTS THAT WE SEE ALL TOO OFTEN SO CHIEF RIVELLI AND THE GOVERNING BODY FELT THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO WORK WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MAKE SURE OUR STUDENTS ARE AS SAFE AS WE CAN POSSIBLY MAKE THEM.

I THINK WE ALL CAN AGREE THAT AN APPROACH OF "IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE" IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH IN TODAY'S WORLD.

WORKING WITH CHIEF RIVELLI AND THE SCHOOLS, WE NOW HAVE RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS KNOWN AS CLASS THREE'S IN ALL OUR SCHOOLS. TO GO ALONG WITH THE SECURITY CAMERAS THAT WERE INSTALLED A FEW YEARS AGO.

WE PRAY THAT THEY ARE NEVER NEEDED AND IT MAY BE COSTLY BUT WE FELT WE CANNOT AFFORD TO NOT BE PREPARED.

OUR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF PAUL DEROSA, CONTINUES TO DO AN EXCEPTIONAL JOB, WORKING HARD, NOT ONLY WITH ITS DAY TO DAY FUNCTIONS BUT ALSO WITH SPECIAL PROJECTS SUCH AS THE UPGRADES THAT WERE COMPLETED AT THE RIGGIN FIELD ENTRANCE WHICH INCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF A PLAQUE HONORING CAPTAIN CHARLES RIGGIN, A FORMER PRINCIPAL AT EAST RUTHERFORD HIGH SCHOOL WHO WAS KILLED SERVING OUR COUNTRY DURING WORLD WAR I.

A DEDICATION WAS HELD IN OCTOBER.

OUR MUNICIPAL CLERK DANIELLE LORENC, CFO TONY BIANCHI AND THE BOROUGH HALL STAFF CONTINUE TO DO AN OUTSTANDING JOB.

MUCH OF WHAT THEY DO GOES UNNOTICED BUT THEY ARE THE ONES WHO KEEP OUR MUNICIPALITY FUNCTIONING EVERY DAY.

DURING THIS PAST YEAR OUR TAX COLLECTOR HAS INITIATED A NUMBER OF UPGRADES AND I MUST THANK COUNCILMAN SOBERA FOR HIS EFFORTS, WORKING WITH HER SO THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPGRADES GO AS SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE.

OUR TAX COLLECTOR IS ALSO DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB WITH OUR SEWER BILLING AND COLLECTIONS

MAGGIE STUIISO HAS JUST COMPLETED HER FIRST YEAR AS COURT ADMINISTRATOR AND WITH THE ENTIRE STAFF IN NEW POSITIONS, IT IS RUNNING AS EFFICIENTLY AS EVER.

ALTHOUGH REVENUES WERE DOWN CONSIDERABLY IN 2018, I DO HOPE TO SEE AN INCREASE IN 2019.

A REEVALUATION WENT INTO EFFECT IN 2018 WHICH INCREASED SOME PROPERTY OWNER'S TAXES BUT OTHERS WENT DOWN, PLUS WE INITIATED A ROLLING ASSESSMENT POLICY WHICH MEANS ASSESSMENTS WILL BE ADJUSTED EACH YEAR KEEPING ASSESSMENTS CURRENT TO THE CHANGING MARKETS.

FINANCIALLY, EVEN THOUGH WE HAD TO START PAYING DOWN THE DEBT CREATED BY THE TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NY, WE WERE ABLE TO OFFSET MUCH OF IT WITH, AFTER YEARS OF ARGUING WITH THE COUNTY THAT THEY WERE OVERTAXING US, A REDUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN THE COUNTY TAX.

YES WE ARE IN A DECENT POSITION FINANCIALLY BUT I DO HAVE CONCERNS GOING INTO 2019.

BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN DEBT SERVICE, SOME REVENUES BEING LESS THAN WHAT WAS ANTICIPATED, AND LINE ITEM OVER EXPENDITURES WHICH REDUCES OUR SURPLUS, WE HAVE AN APPROXIMATELY ONE MILLION DOLLAR DEFICIT IN THE 2019 BUDGET BEFORE WE EVEN START CALCULATING THE EXPENDITURE INCREASES THAT WILL OCCUR BECAUSE OF OVERTIME, THE HIRING OF NEW EMPLOYEES AND SALARY AND BONDING INCREASES.

AS SALARIES ARE ADDED OR INCREASED, OUR PENSION PAYMENTS, INSURANCE AND ASSOCIATED COSTS INCREASE, ADDING TO OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS.

THIS PAST YEAR OUR LINE ITEM OVER EXPENDITURES WERE THREE TIMES HIGHER THAN IN 2017.

AS WE ARE MAKING DECISIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WE NEED TO ALWAYS BE MINDFUL OF HOW THE DECISIONS WE MAKE WILL AFFECT OUR BUDGET.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT DECISIONS MADE IN 2019, WHETHER FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE, WILL HAVE AN EFFECT, WHETHER POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, ON THE FUTURE OF EAST RUTHERFORD.

ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE AMERICAN DREAM IS SCHEDULED TO

OPEN SOMETIME THIS SPRING WHICH MEANS WE WILL START RECEIVING OUR PILOT PAYMENTS.

THE AMOUNT WE RECEIVE THIS YEAR WILL BE PRO RATED, BASED ON THE DATE OF THE AMERICAN DREAM OPENING SO THE SOONER IT OPENS THE MORE REVENUE WE WILL RECEIVE FROM THEM IN 2019.

OF COURSE, THE OPENING OF AMERICAN DREAM MEANS WE PROBABLY WILL HAVE MORE ACTIVITY IN OUR COURT SO AT SOME POINT THAT WILL HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED.

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT WILL BE ADDRESSED IN 2019 INCLUDING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE TURF AT RIGGIN FIELD AND AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, THE REPAVING OF OUR ROADS.

ALSO IN 2019 WE WILL BE DISCUSSING EQUIPMENT UPGRADES FOR A NUMBER OF OUR DEPARTMENTS.

I HAVE NOTHING BUT ADMIRATION FOR THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER TO RUN OUR RECREATION PROGRAMS; THE BOARDS; THE COACHES; THE PARENTS.

I THANK THEM FOR ALL THEIR EFFORTS.

BUT I DO THINK THERE ARE SOME AREAS THAT WE CAN IMPROVE ON; ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO ADULT AND SUMMER PROGRAMS.

LAND USE IS ANOTHER ISSUE THAT WE, THE GOVERNING BODY, NEED TO ADDRESS.

I HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT FOR YEARS AND WILL CONTINUE TO TALK ABOUT IT.

WE NEED TO MOVE FORWARD AND ADJUST TO TODAY'S WORLD.

A NEW MASTER PLAN HAS TO BE DISCUSSED, ALONG WITH WHETHER WE SHOULD CONSIDER REDEVELOPMENT FOR CERTAIN AREAS.

THIS GOVERNING BODY NEEDS TO DECIDE WHAT WE WANT FOR OUR MUNICIPALITY BUT IT CANNOT BE BASED ON WISHFUL THINKING; POLITICS OR MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO BUILD IN OR MOVE INTO EAST RUTHERFORD..

IT WILL BE AN EFFORT IN FUTILITY IF OUR VISION FOR EAST RUTHERFORD IS NOT A VISION THAT IS ATTRACTIVE TO DEVELOPERS BECAUSE THEY WILL IGNORE US, LEADING TO LOST OPPORTUNITIES TO BRING IN NEW RATEABLES. .

WE WILL NEVER PROGRESS WHICH WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE BECAUSE WE LIVE IN A GREAT COMMUNITY THAT HAS SO MUCH POTENTIAL

UNLESS WE DEVELOP A CLEAR CUT PLAN, WE WILL CONTINUE TO ARGUE THE MERITS OF INDIVIDUAL LAND USE APPLICATIONS, WHICH HAVE LIMITED AND WILL CONTINUE TO SEVERELY LIMIT OUR ABILITY TO CONTROL DEVELOPMENT IN EAST RUTHERFORD LEAVING US WITH DEVELOPMENTS THAT WE ARE NOT FAVORABLE TO OR PERHAPS, UNDER USED PROPERTIES AND WE CERTAINLY CAN'T AFFORD TO BUY EVERY ONE OF THESE PROPERTIES.

ONE ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE RESOLVED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR IS OUR AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATION.

OUR ATTORNEY JERRY SALERNO HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB IN GETTING US TO THIS POINT; A DECISION FROM THE COURT ON A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WILL BE FORTH COMING SOON.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN FORCED ON THE MUNICIPALITIES BECAUSE OF VARIOUS REASONS; NOT THE LEAST BEING THE LACK OF ACTION FOR CLOSE TO FOUR DECADES BY OUR GOVERNMENT IN TRENTON.

IN MY OPINION, THE WAY AFFORDABLE HOUSING HAS BEEN HANDLED BY THE STATE AND OTHERS HAS NOT BEEN POSITIVE FOR MANY MUNICIPALITIES INCLUDING EAST RUTHERFORD ; IN FACT, IT HAS BEEN FAR MORE DETRIMENTAL THAN ANY GOOD THAT MAY COME FROM IT.

HOWEVER, WHETHER WE OBJECT TO IT OR NOT, WE STILL HAVE TO COMPLY WHICH MEANS OUR LAND USE DECISIONS AND ORDINANCES HAVE TO REFLECT OUR COMPLIANCE WITH THE COURT SETTLEMENT.

THANK YOU TO 2018 FIRE CHIEF JUNIOR JOSEPH FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF EAST RUTHERFORD AND CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 CHIEF DAVID ALBERTA AND HIS ASSISTANT CHIEFS.

TO CHIEF ALBERTA, HIS ASSISTANT CHIEFS I EXTEND MY BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL 2019.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FIRE AND EMS VOLUNTEERS ALONG WITH OUR LADIES AUXILIARY FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE.

AND, AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU TO OUR VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE.

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BACKBONE OF ANY COMMUNITY AND I THANK EACH AND EVERYONE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR GIVING SO MUCH OF THEIR TIME TO THE PEOPLE OF EAST RUTHERFORD.

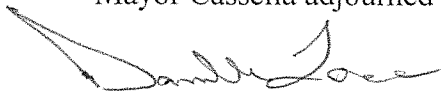
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE COUNCIL DURING THE COMING YEAR.

EAST RUTHERFORD IS FACING MANY IMPORTANT ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN 2019 AND MY HOPE IS THAT WE CAN DISCUSS THESE ISSUES AND MAKE INTELLIGENT DECISIONS THAT WILL HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON EAST RUTHERFORD FOR YEARS TO COME

TO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, ALL OUR EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO CALL EAST RUTHERFORD HOME, I WISH FOR YOU NOTHING BUT HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY IN 2019.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND THANK YOU.

Mayor Cassella adjourned the ReOrganization meeting at 12:21PM:



Danielle Lorenc, RMC