

**ALPINE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 27, 2020 @ 7:30 P.M.**
(This meeting was recorded in its entirety).

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Council, Borough of Alpine, convened for this Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 7:30 P.M. via telephone conference call. The Public Announcement was read as follows: *In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law, and the Governor's Emergency Declaration the notice of this regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held Wednesday, May 27, 2020 has met the requirements of the law by being published in The Record, posted continuously on the bulletin board of the lobby of the Borough Hall and a copy filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. In addition, due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic instructions to the public on how to access this meeting by telephone have been posted in the Borough website as part of the posted Notice of Meeting.*

ROLL CALL

Paul Tomasko, Mayor	Present	Vicki Frankel, Council President	Present
Michael Cacouris, Councilman	Present	Gayle Gerstein, Councilwoman	Present
John Halbreich, Councilman	Present	Laurence Shaddek, Councilman	Present
Arthur Frankel, Councilman	Present		

Staff Present on the call: Borough Attorney Russ Huntington,
Municipal Clerk Stephanie Wehmann

PUBLIC COMMENTS None

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE A copy is on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

Councilman Cacouris noted despite some confusion relative to the due date for second quarter taxes Alpine's collection rate is at 90%. Second quarter 2019 was 93%.

ConnectOne Current Operating Acct **\$3,945,594.16**

Resolution #095:5'2020: Approval of Bills and Claims

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel
at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 to approve the bills and claims, a copy of which are appended.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, A. Frankel, Halbreich Shaddek **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #096: 5'2020: Return of Bonds and Escrow

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel
at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 to approve the return of the following bonds and escrow subject to review and approval by the Borough Engineer.

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
47/10	Policano, Robert & Dineen	Septic Bond	\$10,000.00
		Engineering Escrow	\$805.50
		Total	\$10,805.50
90/4	Suez Water NJ (Pump Station)	Soil Moving Escrow	\$886.00
		Engineering Escrow	\$7,157.00
			\$8,043.00

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, A. Frankel, Halbreich, Shaddek

MOTION APPROVED

Resolution #097:5'2020: 2020 Property Tax Payment

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020

WHEREAS, the property referenced below was sold on February 14, 2020 and the Borough was not notified of the transfer of ownership, and

WHEREAS, the former owners were enrolled in direct withdrawal for property tax payments and the 2nd quarter payment was drafted from their account on May 1st, and

WHEREAS, the former property owners have requested refund of same in the amount as shown below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Borough Treasurer to issue the necessary check in the following amount and made payable to the former property owners:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
81.06	29	Choi, Ethel	24 Schaefer Road Alpine, NJ 07620	\$6,515.00

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich, A. Frankel, Shadek

MOTION APPROVED

Resolution #098:5'2020: Authorizing The Tax Collector To Process Third Quarter 2020

"Estimated" Tax Bills In Accordance With P.L.1994, C 72

Councilman Cacouris explained this resolution is needed due to anticipated budget delays on state and county levels relative to the pandemic. Tax rate increases from 0.779 to 0.790. Mayor Tomasko clarified the resolution will be used only if the need arises.

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27,

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2, which permits the Tax Collector to issue an estimated tax bill for the third installment of taxes in a calendar year when the tax rate has not yet been certified; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Taxation has not certified the tax rate at this time and the Tax Collector will be unable to mail the tax bills on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, the DLGS "strongly recommends" under Local Finance Notice 2020-07 "that municipalities prepare to issue estimated property tax bills for 2020", and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector/ Chief Financial Officer computed and certified an estimated Tax Levy necessary to bill third quarter taxes due August 1, 2020 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-6.3; and

WHEREAS, it is desirous of the Borough of Alpine to issue estimated tax bills for the third installment of taxes payable to the Borough in 2020 to ensure timely and consistent billings to the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Borough estimates a total Tax Levy of \$15,790,338.30, inclusive of the County Local School and Municipal Levies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey on this 27th day of May, 2020, as follows:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to process estimated tax bills for the third quarterly installment of 2020 taxes. The tax collector shall proceed and take such actions as are permitted and required by New Jersey statutes, specifically N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 and 54:4-66-3.

2. The entire estimated Tax Levy for 2020 is hereby set at \$15,790,338.30 and the estimated tax rate is set at .790.

3. In accordance with the law, the third installment of 2020 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the latter of August 10 or the 25th calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills are mailed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of the resolution be filed with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, the Bergen County Board of Taxation and the Borough of Alpine Tax Collector.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, A. Frankel, Halbreich Shadek

MOTION APPROVED

Tax Assessor’s Report. Report on file

MAYOR’S REPORT Mayor Tomasko highlighted:

- **Memorial Day** Compliments to Borough Clerk Wehmann who prepared a Memorial Day brochure mailed to all residents this year and a special webpage. Councilwoman Frankel and Councilman Halbreich contributed. A moving thank you letter was received from family of William Reisgeis, posthumously honored as Grand Marshall.
- **Alpine Swim Club** Status of opening still unclear. State guidance currently precludes.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration Department No report.

Building Department Councilman Halbreich noted the Building Department continues to practice social distancing, use of PPE and careful scheduling by Technical Assistant Catherine Booth. There were 18 scheduled inspections, 1 tree permit, 2 soil moving permits, and 3 zoning review applications. Balance of the report is on file in the Clerk’s office. Under the Governor’s latest Executive Order construction activity is beginning to pick up again.

Department of Public Works Councilman Frankel noted report is on file.

Fire Department Councilwoman Gerstein advised statistics are available for review.

Police Department Councilwoman Frankel noted report is on file.

Resolution #099:5’2020: Accepting the Reports of the Standing Committees

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 to accept the reports of the Standing Committees.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich, A. Frankel, Shadek

MOTION APPROVED

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON’S REPORT

- The school field was vandalized by someone driving on it leaving tire ruts. Alpine Police Department investigating. DPW is remediating. Additional surveillance cameras will be installed. Thanks to James Crimmins Landscaping for donating seed and fertilizer.
- Board of Education President Simotas advises teachers and students are settling in to the new routine under a remote learning regime. At their last meeting they reviewed the standardized test results from Spring 2019 just released by the State NJSLA noting Alpine School students performed exceptionally well
- The school is using downtime while the building is closed to work on capital projects.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY’S REPORT No report.

BOROUGH ENGINEER’S REPORT Mr. Frenzel could not attend this evening but report is on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Ordinance 797: No Cash Policy

Public Hearing: Opened to the public for comments and, being none, closed.

Resolution #100:5'2020: Adoption of Ordinance 797

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein
at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT" IMPLEMENTING A NO CASH POLICY FOR PAYMENTS TO THE BOROUGH

does hereby pass its second and final reading and is hereby adopted and Notice of same be published according to law.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich, A. Frankel, Shadek

MOTION APPROVED

{Ordinance 797 appended to these minutes in its entirety.}

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS Resolutions #101:5'2020 - #106:5'2020

1. Resolution #101:5'2020: Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting April 22, 2020

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel
at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting April 22, 2020.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, A. Frankel, Halbreich Shadek **Abstain:** Gerstein

MOTION APPROVED

2. Resolution #102:5'2020 2020 Road Improvement program: Authorizing Contract Pursuant to Riverside Cooperative Master Contract

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel
at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020

WHEREAS, the Riverside Cooperative Pricing System (I.D. #35-RCPS) has received approval from the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs and the Borough of Alpine is a member of the Riverside Cooperative Pricing System and has executed an agreement to this effect; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside Cooperative in compliance with Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 and Local Finance Notice 2020-10 COVID-19 Supplemental emergency Procurement Guidance received bids as advertised for road improvement work on April 30, 2020 and awarded the Master Contract on May 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer in his monthly report of May 27, 2020 advised that the low bidder for the Master Contract is American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC of Kearny, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside Cooperative provides that each participating municipality is responsible for entering into its own separate contract with the successful bidder awarded the Master Contract

WHEREAS, the bid price for the Borough of Alpine's portion is \$169,702.24 for the Borough's 2020 Road Improvement Paving Projects for the milling, road resurfacing and ancillary improvements for the following roads or portions thereof as listed below:

- Alpine Drive
- Old Quarry Road
- Old Chapel Court
- Borough Hall Parking Lot

- Fire Department Parking Lot

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC for the aforementioned work immediately following the execution of the 2020 Master Contract by Riverside Cooperative and completion of the statutory 20 day waiting period following final approval of Capital Bond Ordinance No. 795.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich A. Frankel, Shaddek

MOTION APPROVED

3. Resolution #103:5'2020 Approving the Bylaws of the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

At this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Alpine is a member of the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, hereinafter the "FUND" and;

WHEREAS, recent changes were made to the FUND's bylaws; and

WHEREAS, after a public hearing conducted on March 19, 2020 the Executive Committee of the FUND distributed the proposed bylaw amendment to the membership for further consideration; and

WHEREAS, these revised bylaws must be ratified by at least three-fourths of the member towns before they can become effective.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Alpine that the revised bylaws are hereby ratified

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich A. Frankel, Shaddek

MOTION APPROVED

4. Resolution #104:5'2020 Introduction Ordinance #798 Enacting Ch. 210 of the Borough Code Entitled "Towing and Storage."

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 210 OF THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ALPINE ENTITLED "TOWING AND STORAGE"

pass on first reading and remain on file with the Clerk for public inspection until public hearing thereon and further consideration thereof, which hearing shall be held in the Borough Hall, Alpine, New Jersey on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time and place all persons interested in said Ordinance will be heard.

The Borough Clerk is hereby directed to publish said Ordinance in full or by summary ten days prior to the date fixed for further consideration for final passage together with the Notice of Hearing thereon in The Record according to law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Ordinance shall be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Borough Hall and copies shall be made available to the members of the public who shall request the same.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich A. Frankel, Shaddek

MOTION APPROVED

5. Resolution #105:5'2020 Authorizing Purchases of Goods & Services in 2020 through State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program – Purchase of Vehicle and Removal, Purchase & Installation of Equipment for Purchased Vehicle

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

at this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020

WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12A and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), the Borough may, by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the procurement of goods and services through a cooperative purchasing program is an “open and fair” process under the New Jersey Pay-to-Play Law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.; and

WHEREAS the Borough of Alpine plans to utilize the State Contract Vendor(s) listed below, for the purchase of one (1) 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe PPV 4X4 9C1 and for the removal, purchase and/or installation of equipment necessary to acquire and upfit one (1) new police department vehicle, Such transaction subject to all conditions applicable to the current State contracts:

Commodity #T2776 POLICE VEHICLES: SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES,1/2-TON, 4WD

Contracts: #19-FLEET-00842 Gentilini Chevrolet

Commodity T0106 – LAW ENFORCEMENT FIREARMS EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Contracts: Municipal Equipment Enterprise

#17-FLEET-00739 Code 3

17-FLEET-00719 Havis

17-FLEET-00761 Whelen

17-FLEET-00758 NJ Labor/Install

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose have been provided for in Capital Account Numbers C-04-55-989-201, C-04-55-989-202 and the Police Special Reserve Donation account 9-01-55-915-020 in the accounting records of the Borough of Alpine;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Alpine, in the County of Bergen, that the Borough’s Qualified Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to purchase goods or services in 2020 from the approved New Jersey State Contract Vendor listed above pursuant to all conditions of the State contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, that the Borough of Alpine enter into an agreement with Gentilini Chevrolet of Woodbine, NJ as authorized vendor distributor for the above contracts for the above noted goods and services in accordance with the aforementioned contract and the specifications attached hereto, in an amount not to exceed \$35,684.00 and with Municipal Equipment Enterprise of Egg Harbor Township, NJ as authorized vendor distributor for the above contracts for the above noted goods and services in accordance with the aforementioned contract and the specifications attached hereto, in an amount not to exceed \$9,191.04 to be charged to the account(s) above or as otherwise determined to be correct by the Chief Financial Officer’s pending certification of funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b), prior to placing any order for goods or services in accordance with this Resolution, a certification of available funds shall be executed by the Chief Financial Officer and attached to the file copy of the purchase order or other similar document.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich A. Frankel, Shadek

MOTION APPROVED

6. Resolution #106:5'2020 Introduction Ordinance #799 To Authorize the Purchase of Real Property Located at 6 East Main Street in the Borough of Alpine (Block 47 Lot 9)

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6 EAST MAIN STREET, IN THE BOROUGH OF ALPINE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

pass on first reading and remain on file with the Clerk for public inspection until public hearing thereon and further consideration thereof, which hearing shall be held in the Borough Hall, Alpine, New Jersey on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time and place all persons interested in said Ordinance will be heard.

The Borough Clerk is hereby directed to publish said Ordinance in full or by summary ten days prior to the date fixed for further consideration for final passage together with the Notice of Hearing thereon in The Record according to law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Ordinance shall be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Borough Hall and copies shall be made available to the members of the public who shall request the same.

Vote: Ayes: V. Frankel, Cacouris, Gerstein, Halbreich A. Frankel, Shadok

MOTION APPROVED

End of Consent Agenda Resolutions

COMMUNICATIONS: WRITTEN AND ORAL

Mayor Tomasko advised the proposed open space purchase of former SUEZ property introduced above is being reviewed by the Environmental Commission. A letter of intent has been submitted to the County to apply for funds from the County Open Space Trust Fund to offset this purchase.

ADJOURNMENT

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

and approved by all to adjourn the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday May 27, 2020 at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Wehmann, Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH OF ALPINE

ORDINANCE NO. 797

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT" IMPLEMENTING A NO CASH POLICY FOR PAYMENTS TO THE BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Borough of Alpine seeks to authorize the implementation of a policy prohibiting the payment of remittances to the Borough with currency including the payment of property taxes, fees, bonds and escrow, and to require payment by check, money order or other valid form of payment other than cash or currency; and

WHEREAS, it appears that for the security of the Borough and its employees this policy is necessary and proper, both for physical security of the employees and the fiscal security of the Borough and its taxpayers and residents to require payments in forms other than cash.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey to amend Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code of the Borough of Alpine entitled "ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT" to add Section 2-6 as follows:

§2-6 No Cash Policy for Payment to the Borough

It shall be the policy of the Borough of Alpine that no cash shall be accepted for any taxes, fees or other charges due to the Borough. All payment shall be in the form of a personal check, certified check or money order. For non-recurring fees that are under five (\$5.00) dollars, such as copies for OPRA requests or police reports, a department head has discretion to accept cash payments for such charges.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a copy of this Ordinance shall be published in its entirety as required by statute, published in the next two issues of the Mayor and Council Quarterly newsletter, served upon the Borough Tax Collector and the Bergen County Tax Board and copied to all Borough employees who collect payments on behalf of the Borough of Alpine, upon final adoption and execution hereof.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law.