

**ALPINE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 21, 2022 @ 7:30 P.M.
Borough Hall – 100 Church Street**

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Council, Borough of Alpine, convened for this Regular Meeting on Wednesday, November 21, 2022 at 7:30 P.M. in the Alpine Borough Hall. The Public Announcement was read and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law the notice of this regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, November 21, 2022 at 7:30 PM has met the requirements of the law by being published as part of the annual meeting notice 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.

ROLL CALL OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF 2022

Paul Tomasko, Mayor	Present	Vicki Frankel, Council President	Present
Gayle Gerstein, Councilwoman	Present	Scott Bosworth, Councilman	Present
Arthur Frankel, Councilman	Present	Steven Cohen, Councilman	Present
David Kupferschmid, Councilman	Present		

Staff Present on Dais:

Borough Attorney Russ Huntington, Attorney Levi Kool of Huntington Bailey, Borough Engineer Perry Frenzel, Municipal Clerk Stephanie Wehmann

SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL Mayor Paul H. Tomasko administered the Oath of Office to David Kupferschmid as Councilman, following County certification of the 2022 General Election results, for the unexpired portion of a three-year term expiring December 31, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Policano, 979 Closter Dock Road – Congratulated newly elected officials: Mayor Paul Tomasko, Councilwoman Gayle Gerstein, Councilman Scott Bosworth and Councilman David Kupferschmid.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Connect One Bank Current Operating Account **\$4,770,279.29**

Resolution #176:11'2022: Return of Bonds and Escrow

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

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Monday, November 21, 2022 to approve the following return of bonds and/or escrow:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hug Without Screaming	Film Permit #121-22	\$ 1,769.08
		TOTAL: \$ 1,769.08

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution #177:11'2022: Authorizing the Transfer of 2022 Budget Appropriations

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

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, November 21, 2022,
WHEREAS, title 40A:4-58 of the New Jersey Statutes provides that should it become necessary during the last two months of the fiscal year to expend for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the respective sums appropriated therefore, and there shall be an excess in any appropriation over and above the amount claimed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation, the Governing Body may by Resolution setting forth the facts (adopted by not less than 2/3 vote of the full membership thereof), transfer the amount of such excess of those appropriations deemed to be insufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Alpine, the Borough Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to make the following transfers in the 2022 Budget Appropriations.

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Electricity	2-01-31-430-020	\$2,732.04
Street Lighting	2-01-31-435-020	\$ 13.86
Gasoline	2-01-31-460-020	\$ 473.42
Public Employees Retirement System	2-01-36-471-000	\$1,153.04
Police & Fire Retirement System	2-01-36-475-000	\$ 347.21
Legal Services	<u>2-01-20-155-020</u>	
	TOTAL:	\$4,719.57

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor & Council.

Resolution #178:11'2022: Approval of Bills & Claims - \$1,214,296.85**OFFERED BY:** Councilman Cohen**SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, November 21, 2022 to approve the bills and claims of which copies are appended.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid**MOTION APPROVED****TAX ASSESSOR'S REPORT** On File.**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Tomasko thanked voters of Alpine for their confidence for him and his running mates which affords them the privilege to serve as elected officials.
- Mayor Tomasko attended the annual League of Municipalities conference in Atlantic City last week and hopes one or two members will accompany him next year. They have a full schedule of programs, exhibitors and classes, and if anyone is interested in seeing it, reach out to the Mayor.
- Elected officials receive a municipality magazine, and the Mayor encouraged the Council to check out the latest November edition; particularly on 1) page 10 regarding BCLM calling for OPRA review and reform, 2) an article on risk management which provides an insight into the budget on health insurance and insurance costs, and 3) on page 88 an article on the state of affordable housing where the State League of Municipalities lay out a blue print calling law makers to make comprehensive reforms to the state's affordable housing policy.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Administration Department** No report.
- **Building Department** Councilman Kupferschmid reported: 61 scheduled inspections, 1 driveway permit, 3 fence permits, 8 tree permits, 5 zoning reviews, 1 sign permit, 5 miscellaneous. Rest of report on file.
- **Department of Public Works** Councilman Frankel reported on November 6, 2022 there was a loss of power due to a transformer explosion. DPW responded and working with Orange Rockland, restarted power and systems. Remainder of report on file in the Borough Clerk's office. Mayor Tomasko commended the DPW as they remove an abundance of leaves faster than any other community.
- **Fire Department** Councilwoman Gerstein reported all statistics are on file.
- **Police Department** Councilwoman Frankel reported 9 summonses, 10 MVA resulting in 5 injuries; rest of report is on file.

Resolution #179:11'2022: Accepting the Reports of the Standing Committees**OFFERED BY:** Councilwoman V. Frankel**SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Monday, November 21, 2022 to accept the reports of the Standing Committees.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid**MOTION APPROVED****BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON'S REPORT**

- Councilman Kupferschmid reported that the Alpine School is impressively fiscally responsible with a capital reserve of \$1.5 million increased to \$5 million; which is 65% of following year budget and is one of 3 districts in the entire state to have numbers more than 50%.
- Mayor Tomasko commented that Alpine School is rated #1 in the state.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S REPORT No comments for open session.**BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- On behalf of the Borough Engineer, Mayor Tomasko reported one noteworthy item to mention is Closter Dock Road/Route 9W intersection improvement project is moving forward. Remainder of report on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.**NEW BUSINESS:****CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS #180:11'2022 - #181:11'2022****Resolution #180:11'2022: Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes October 26, 2022****OFFERED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel**SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, November 21, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 26, 2022.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid**MOTION APPROVED****Resolution #181:11'2022: Approval of Executive Session Minutes October 26, 2022****OFFERED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel**SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, November 21, 2022, to approve the Executive Session from October 26, 2022.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid**MOTION APPROVED**

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor & Council.

Governing Body Acknowledgement of Best Practices Inventory

The Best Practices Inventory was certified and submitted on November 10, 2022, by the November 10th deadline. The Mayor met with Borough Officials to review the BPI questions and responses prior to submission. This year's inventory was comprised of 56 questions including unscored survey questions. At the time of submission there was an inventory score of 31. This score should result in no penalty or withholding of Property Tax Relief (CMPTRA) and Energy Tax Receipts (ETR) based on the rubric provided in Local Finance Notice 2022-17. The entire report with questions and answers is available for review.

COMMUNICATIONS - WRITTEN AND ORAL: None.

Mayor Tomasko welcomed and acknowledged Michael Forem who ran for office in town and here with us tonight.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into executive session at 7:42 PM and reconvened in public session at 8:41 PM.

Resolution #182:11'2022: Executive Session Relating to: 1) Litigation, Negotiation and Attorney-Client Privilege- Affordable Housing, and 2) Contractual Matter (Collective Bargaining)

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein

SECONDED BY: Councilwoman Frankel

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b subsection designated below:

(b)(7) *Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege: Affordable Housing*

(b)(4) *Matter related to collective bargaining*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, assembled in public session on Wednesday, November 21, 2022, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Borough Council that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid

MOTION APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein

SECONDED BY: Councilwoman Frankel

And approved by all present to adjourn the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, November 21, 2022 at 8:41 P.M.

VOTE: Ayes: Bosworth, Cohen, A. Frankel, V. Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid

MOTION APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Wehmann
Municipal Clerk