

**ALPINE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 26, 2014 @ 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, February 26, 2014 at 7:39 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 New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the notice of this Regular Meeting held Wednesday, February 26, 2014 has met the requirements of the law by being published in The Record as part of the Annual Notice, posted on the bulletin board of the lobby in the Borough Hall and a copy filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. This meeting was recorded in its entirety.

ROLL CALL

Paul Tomasko, Mayor	Present	Vicki Frankel, Council President	Present
Paul Garjian, Councilman	Present	Michael Cacouris, Councilman	Present
Gayle Gerstein, Councilwoman	Present	Joan Ornstein, Councilwoman	Present
John Halbreich, Councilman	Present		

Staff Present on Dais: Acting Municipal Clerk, Jerry Beckmann, Borough Engineer Gary Vander Veer, Dermot J. Doyle for Borough Attorney Russ Huntington

Mayor Tomasko wished to thank the Council members for volunteering their time in the service of our town. Councilman Garjian (14 years), Councilman Cacouris (12 years), Council President/Police Commissioner Vicki Frankel (15 years), Councilwoman Gerstein (9 years), Councilwoman Joan Ornstein (1½ years) and Councilman Halbreich (1 year). They have just emerged from one of several Budget Workshops conducted each year to craft as economical a budget as they can while maintaining the wonderful municipal services to which we're accustomed. Their goal is to keep the town a lovely place in which to live and own a home.

PUBLIC COMMENTS Noting the large crowd Mayor Tomasko asked each person to try and keep their comments limited to 3 minutes.

Sergeant Arthur White, Alpine Police Officer/President Alpine PBA Local #399, currently residing in Rivervale, NJ. Sgt. White thanked the Mayor & Council for the opportunity to speak and the residents and PBA members for attending as well. Members of the Alpine Police Department appreciate Alpine and its residents very much. All of them feel fortunate to work in such a wonderful community. They work diligently day and night to ensure the families of Alpine and their property are safeguarded every day. The PBA is in the process of negotiating a labor contract. They are here tonight to inform them of some facts involving this process. They are currently seeking a three year contract with a 2% salary increase each year. Their previous contract resulted in a three year contract with a 2% salary increase each year. They are seeking no more and no less than their previous agreement. They have distributed documentation to the Police Committee which was provided to them by their financial consultant, Raphael Caprio, PhD, to support their proposal. These financial figures were obtained from the Borough's Annual Financial Statements and yearly budgets. Brian Prunk will be presenting these findings but first he would like to clarify a portion of the letter residents received from the Mayor and Council this past weekend. The letter implies they are seeking a 2% increase on every line item. This is incorrect. They are seeking a 2% increase on salaries only, not the other line items they have listed.

Patrolman Brian Prunk, Alpine resides in RiverVale, NJ. The police department's personnel was cut by 8.5%. The Mayor asked when that was. Patrolman Prunk responded as of 2014. Councilwoman Frankel corrected 2012. Patrolman Prunk stated last year's approved budget for the police department was \$1.47 million. The actual amount spent was \$1.3 million which equates to a 13% decrease for \$171,000 worth of savings. The State has also mandated that they pay into their health care contributions approximately \$145,000 over the next 3 years. He displayed a chart representing their 2013 budget, 2013 actual and proposed budget for the next 3 years with a 2% salary increase. The result is approximately \$1.4 million in year 2016. The 2013 budget won't be realized until at least 2016. The \$171,000 would basically almost pay for the proposed 2% increase. For this reason they believe a 2% salary increase is fair.

Neil Berger, Duck Pond Road, stated he is a new resident. He wished to speak in favor of the 2% increase for the police. One of the reasons he moved to Alpine is the security and safety that Alpine affords. As an employer himself if he was given the opportunity to lock in a 2% increase in salary he would sign a lifetime agreement. He does not believe 2% is actually an increase at all. The current CPI is approximately 1.7% so in fact if there is no salary increase, it represents a decrease in salary by his account. He thinks 2% is very reasonable. This amount, if correct, amounts to \$73 dollars a year in extra taxes on an average \$2.5 million home and he personally spent more than that on lunch today. He appreciates that the force may be paid more than other town employees or other forces in neighboring towns but frankly when one wants the best, sometimes the best costs a little bit more.

Nancy Berkowitz, The Esplanade. She lives right in front of the "Devil's Tower" and because of her residence she relies on the police department far more than most of the citizens of Alpine due to people drag racing on The Esplanade and all the other things that go with living on that street. She speaks in favor of the 2% increase and agrees with everything Mr. Berger said. Offering them a 1% increase is literally a decrease and in our community we are all happy. If we were asked would we pitch in the extra amount to give them the increase we would all sign the dotted line instantly. The Alpine Police Department goes above and beyond every day for its community from things like bailing water out of our basements when we're having floods to catching our pets and bringing them home and catching our children when they're coming down the street on a skateboard in an unsafe area. They know all of our kids, they know all of our help at home and they take care of all of us. They without question deserve this increase and we certainly can't give them something that's nothing.

Carlos Crespo, Hillside Avenue. He states he is also a new resident to Alpine. He grew up in New York City, in East Harlem and still has a shop there; a conversion facility for energy. To his east is the Thomas Jefferson projects, to his north is the George Carver projects, to his west is the St. Nicholas projects. In the St. Nicholas Projects last week a woman aged 38 was found shot and killed. She'd been dead for two days. When they had their facility broken into they called NYPD. Normally it takes 30-40 minutes for a response time. They moved here to get away from that. Three months ago he received a phone call from an Alpine police member who informed them their door was found unlocked and open; someone came into their home. Two Alpine police officers with zero regard for their own safety went in, not knowing who was there, not knowing what the threat was and to keep his family safe and keep him safe they risked their lives. He can't put a price on that. He doesn't know what that's worth but he does know it's worth a lot more than 2% so he's in favor of the raise.

Mayor Tomasko wished to recognize Alpine Deputy Fire Chief Charles A. Hoffmann who was present in the audience for the wonderful job he does because like Mr. Crespo said about the police, the firemen also do that exact same sort of service for all of our benefit, sake, well being and give their time very generously to our town just like he said about the Council members.

Jennifer Dalton, Timberline Drive. She states she is also a real estate agent with Prominent Properties, LLC in Alpine. The police have helped her so much. They have come to court with her twice for domestic abuse. She has had some terrible situations in her life that they have helped with her. She can't even tell them how much she appreciates them. They have been there are every level. They go above and

beyond what a police officer is supposed to do. On top of that, being a real estate agent, she was showing a house at 34 Timberline Drive and there was a large wild turkey running around the inside of the house. They came there and literally tried to help her get the turkey out of there. They couldn't and she had to call someone else but for them to just do all of this, that's not a police officer's job and she appreciates them so much. Every single one of them has literally helped her.

Sue Herera, Church Street. She is almost a 27 year resident of Alpine. She came not to take sides but basically to urge both sides to work very hard to come up with an agreement and a compromise that keeps intact the very strong relationship that Alpine has with the Mayor and the town and the wonderful Council and our wonderful police department. We're a small, private, quiet community but we're only 12 miles from Manhattan. And the reason we stay a small private, quiet, safe community is largely due to the efforts of the Mayor and Council and the Alpine Police Department. Alpine is a wonderful place to live. She would never consider living anywhere else except maybe this February she would like to move to L.A. That being said and the polar vortex aside she wouldn't live anywhere else. We're safe here, it's a beautiful community full of wonderful people but it's a very unique community and she thinks it's the uniqueness that also makes it a more challenging place to be a Council member, the Mayor and the police officer. In addition to doing your jobs as police officers you have to be discreet. There's a lot that happens in this town and it never ends up on her broadcast or on ET. You also have to be diplomatic because it is the uniqueness of this community that does make it a challenge to be a police officer. We have entertainment stars, we have sports figures, we have leading figures in the financial world that all live in this community and that provides its own sets of challenges when you have to deal with some of the media that goes along with that particular group of people. She feels strongly also as was echoed by a number of my fellow residents here that the police officers do go above and beyond the call of duty. She does not have a turkey story but does have a rabid skunk story. One of examples is that a lot of times officers in other towns will shift those responsibilities of getting animals out of a house and bailing out of a basement and those sorts of things to different agencies and our police department never does that. They chase around the rabid skunk in the back yard. When she called animal control they said, 'How do you know its rabid? Did you look it in the eye?' Why would she look a skunk in the eye? Officer Rob laughed and said he would take care of it, through a trash can over it and we were done with it. That's just one example of something they could shift to another agency and they do not. In addition, being on the Alpine Foundation Board she has noticed that our police officers have a very strong relationship with the Alpine School children which she feels is so very extremely important. They are there at drop off every morning and we try and negotiate getting the kids into school. They're there at pickup in the afternoon and a number of them are also in the classroom or in the building every day dealing with DARE and she doesn't know if you could put a price on that either. To start a strong relationship with children on an anti-drug, anti-alcohol, anti-violence, anti-bullying message with a very personal relationship with Officer White, Officer Colussi; she thinks that is extremely important. She is confident that this will work out but she would just like to urge that the Council and the Police Department come to an agreement that is amenable to all of us because she thinks the strength of this community is the Council, the strength of this community is the Police Department and the strength of the community are the people that live in this community. If we can all come to an agreement that works for everybody it will just strengthen our community even more.

Mayor Tomasko thanked Ms. Herera for her work on the Alpine Foundation and added the Borough has many fine employees in addition to the officers here tonight. He recognized Acting Municipal Clerk and former Police Chief Jerry Beckmann. He further noted the DPW deserves a round of applause and gratitude for the job they've done for us this entire winter. They're out in the middle of the night. He thinks this is clearly the only town around where no sooner does the snow stop, the roads are passable. They are but another department that is an example of the special nature of our town. Most of all, he thinks it's obvious that the volunteers that give their time generously to the town are worthy of a lot of appreciation and they try to do that on a regular basis.

Richard Bonhomme, Warren Lane. Mr. Bonhomme has lived here over 40 years and is member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. This Mayor and Council has done a wonderful job - every one of them - for

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor and Council.

the town. He is not a politician. He doesn't like to go against whatever they say but he feels these guys are grossly underpaid and it's not just the increase they're asking for and it is an increase. But that's not enough. This is the largest community based on salaries in the nation or one of the largest and we go around bragging about that but we can't compare ourselves with Upper Saddle River and their salaries. He knows they like to keep the tax rate low for the rest of the residents but I think the residents are speaking out here. On another note, there is a suit against this town and they've been in litigation for years with a resident (who was also present in the audience). If they could take that money and give it all to the police he'd be happy.

Alexis Roura, Birch Road. She thinks the cops are amazing. Officer Rob was her DARE officer when she was thirteen and she thinks he's awesome and she thinks everyone makes her feel super safe and she definitely supports them.

Steve Meehan, Litchfield Way. He has been a resident for ten years. He thinks they're in a precarious position because to use a sports analogy, this is the commissioner and we're owners, so conceivably with the players we should be on the same team which we are 99% of the time. He thinks the Mayor and Council do a fantastic job, really good, and that's why they live here. They live here for the quality of education, the low tax rate, and the quality of services. So what you do should be the envy of every other town in the United States, forget about New Jersey. So to sit here and say that he/them as a family support an increase and to think about going against our own Commission, if you will as an owner, is incongruous to the way he wakes up every day. But in this circumstance there's some comps to look out there – we're higher than some – we're lower than others. Quite frankly he'd be happy if they were among the best at number one. If somebody said look Steve, we are number one in Bergen County, New Jersey he'd be happy with that, he'd be proud of it and he thinks we deserve that. He thinks quite frankly given the construct as described by the neighbors and as the Mayor and Council understands better than all of us it's probably warranted. He doesn't know where the 2% fits within the comp universe if that makes us number one or not but if it does he knows he's okay with it. It is of paramount importance if somebody contemplates moving here to the profile of the people that the level of security and they know this, what is important for them is supporting the 2% and quasi going against our own Commission, if you will, as owners and part of the team understanding that at the end of it he hopes the Police and the Mayor and Council understand we all are on the same team at the end of this regardless but the short answer is that he and, he believes, most of his neighbors do support it.

Walter Roura, Birch Road. He has served on the Alpine Board of Education for 11-12 years and he knows what it's like to try to come up with a budget especially within the State guidelines that keep us to a 2% cap each year. He knows what it's like to try to satisfy our teachers who keep our school in the condition it is. It's one of the Class A schools in New Jersey. When he has seen these policemen working with our children, working with our administration, conducting drills; they protect our kids. They go out of their way to protect our kids and we are on the same team with you [the Mayor and Council]. We have found ways to satisfy our teachers and to keep them in the position they are in. He urges them [the Mayor and Council] to pass the 2% increase.

Mayor Tomasko responded that he very much appreciates all this wonderful input and the time everyone has taken out of their evening. In particular he is glad that Walter with his experience of volunteer service so generous to our town brought up the facts of the cap which has been imposed on all municipalities and they are forced to deal with and live within. Sufficed to say that a good bit of effort has been expended on this and looking into ways that this might be accomplished and that if 2% were all there were to it they wouldn't have any problem signing off on it. Unfortunately that is not so simple and that is not all that is involved here. Without getting into the specifics, which he would love to do but he thinks clearly deserves to be dealt with back at the bargaining table, that's the reality of it. Things are not the same in this state as they were three years ago. Many a town has shrunk its police force quite significantly and we don't want to get to the point where we are forced to do the same or even worse, or be forced to contemplate a merger with another town's police department and that's what we're dealing with here. We're trying to work our way through this. We thank you very much for your input.

Susan Roura, Birch Road. She feels it's important to note that here in this town, and while she is appreciative always of the Mayor's efforts in the town and has been publicly supportive of him in this role, she thinks it is important to note we have the privilege of being in a position to have the ability to put out a little bit extra if that's what it takes to make a meeting of this situation. She understands and appreciates their efforts very much in keeping their taxes the lowest in the County if not in the State. She didn't squawk when she put in a pool and her taxes went up significantly and she won't squawk if they go up because our police officers are taken care of. None of these gentlemen (and she wishes she could say men and women) are residents of our town and the probability is because they just can't afford to be so she does not begrudge them wanting to make a decent living so that they can come into this town and take care of us.

Patrolman White wished first to clarify what someone brought up about the 2% cap. According to the Annual Financial records in 2013 the Borough of Alpine used ¼ % out of that 2% which translates into approximately 12% of their ability to raise taxes. They are not asking them to raise taxes. They have shown on one of their three charts that with the savings from last year they can give them a reasonable and equitable salary increase over the next three years. As far as your taxes, you are the lowest in Bergen County and to answer your question your 562 out of 566 in the State of New Jersey per the State Division of Taxation. He appreciates their time and looks forward to hearing from them.

Councilman Garjian noted they are not used to having such a large public. They have had it on prior occasions. He would like to say he very much appreciates and echoes the remarks of Ms. Herera, Mr. Meehan, and Mr. & Mrs. Roura. He would like to be part of the facilitation of coming to an amicable resolution here.

Being no further comments, the public portion was closed.

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

Bank Of America Current Operating Acct

\$3,250,207.60

Resolution #044:2'2014 Emergency Appropriation #1 to Increase the Temporary Budget

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

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect to Current Fund appropriations; and

WHEREAS, no adequate provision has been made in the 2014 Temporary Budget for the aforesaid purpose, and R.S. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency appropriation for the purpose, and,

WHEREAS, the total temporary emergency resolutions adopted in the year 2014 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (R.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$1,539,900.00 and shall be provided for in the 2014 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, that in accordance with R.S. 40A:4-20, temporary emergency appropriations be and the same is hereby made for the following and that upon adoption, one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

OPERATIONS- Excluded from "CAP"

D.A.R.E. Municipal Alliance O/E 4-01-41-703-020

\$500.00

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #045: 2'2014: 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, February 26, 2014 to approve the bills and claims, a copy of which are appended.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #046:2'2014 Return of Bonds and Escrow

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 to approve the return of the following bonds and escrow subject to review and approval by the Borough Engineer.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Chun, Kwang Ji & Mal Yong	39.02/13.02	Driveway Escrow	\$ 5.75
Total			\$ 5.75

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #047:2'2014 Refund of Tax Overpayment (Tax Appeal) Grunfeld Block 73 Lot 2

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Frankel at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 to

WHEREAS, a Judgment was granted on October 9, 2013 from the Bergen County Tax Board reducing the assessment on the following:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Owner's Name</u>	<u>Original Assm</u>	<u>Reduced Assm</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Refund 4th Qtr</u>
73	20	Grunfeld, Jody L.	\$1,136,300	\$1,000,000	2013	\$ 986.81

WHEREAS, the reduction in assessment was not recorded in time for the 2013 Assessment records for Block 73 Lot 20 and was billed at the higher assessed value for 2013 creating overpayment of taxes;

WHEREAS, an overpayment was made for the tax year listed above and therefore should be refunded to the owner made payable to;

Jody L. Grunfeld &
Ansell Grimm & Aaron, PC
1500 Lawrence Ave.
Ocean, NJ 07712

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 a refund for the tax overpayment.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

In regard to the tax appeal resolution, Mayor Tomasko stated he's advised the Borough Treasurer in future to consult with the Borough Attorney and Tax Assessor as to whether they have conferred with Mayor and Council prior to placement of this type of resolution on the Borough agenda. The Governing Body should have an opportunity to review the particulars and consider what they feel is the appropriate course of action prior to be placed on the agenda. In the past such resolutions are first reviewed in Executive Session.

Tax Assessor's Report. Report on file in the Borough Clerk's Office.

MAYOR'S REPORT The Mayor reported on the following:

- Article in The Record that NJ Senate President Sweeney is advocating reducing the cap from 2% to 0%.
- Acting Municipal Clerk Beckmann has completed and passed the first of required five courses for certification.
- Letter received from the Administrative Officer of the Courts that our court system will be upgraded by them at no cost to the Borough.
- Former Council President Frank Vaccaro passed away three weeks ago and offered condolences to his family.
- Thank you note from former Borough Clerk Gail Warming-Tanno thanking all of them for a lovely reception and generous gift.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration Department Councilwoman Ornstein welcomed Acting Municipal Clerk Beckmann to his first official meeting.

Building Department Councilman Halbreich advised there were 56 scheduled inspections, 2 treepermits, 7 sign permits and the balance is on file.

Department of Public Works Councilman Garjian advised Martin P. Clancy resigned to accept employment with the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police. Work will begin to fill his position. The reporting period consisted of plowing operations 47" of snow, sleet and or ice during 9 storms. He relayed thanks to Ralph Wehmann, Frank Rickenbaugh, Martin Clancy and Stu Davis as well as the part timers who helped with the storm including Charles A. Hoffmann for an excellent job. Catch basins were cleared in advance of forecasted heavy rains. Frozen pipe repaired at affordable housing complex.

Fire Department Councilwoman Gerstein advised report is on file.

Police Department Councilwoman Frankel reported 29 summonses written and the rest of the report is on file.

Resolution #048:2'2014: 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, February 26, 2014 to accept the reports of the Standing Committees.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON'S REPORT No report.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S REPORT No report.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT Borough Engineer Vander Veer distributed his report. A commitment for Riverside Cooperative is required by March with submission of roads to be paved and quantities due by April. Councilwoman Frankel opined Warren Lane, Dogwood Lane and Forest Street are most in need. Mayor Tomasko asked Borough Engineer Vander Veer to confer with DPW Superintendent Wehmann and make recommendations based on a certain budgeted amount. He also asked Mr. Vander Veer to investigate microsurfacing which Tenafly is close to doing. Mr. Vander Veer noted microsurfacing does not last as long and he has concerns with road preparation prior to laying down a skin coat. He will check with Tenafly's engineer and view Jefferson Street which has received this treatment. Council offered roads done recently are already in bad shape anyway. Harsh winter weather has not helped.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS Resolutions #049:2'2014 - #053:2'2014

1. Approval of Minutes

a. Resolution #049:2'2014:Budget Meeting January 22, 2014

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, February 26, 2014 to approve the minutes of the Budget Meeting of January 22, 2014.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

b. Resolution #050:2'2013:Regular Meeting of January 22, 2014

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, February 26, 2014 to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting January 22, 2014.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

2. Resolution #051:2'2014: Cleaning Services Contract

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, February 26, 2014;

to authorize the Acting Municipal Clerk to sign an agreement with Henry Liegeois for Cleaning Services for the Borough Hall for a term of one year at a cost of \$12,791.72 commencing February 28, 2014 and terminating February 28, 2015 which cost is to be shared equally with the United States Postal Service pursuant to the terms of the lease agreement between the Borough of Alpine and the United States Postal Service, which will pay Alpine its share of the cost as part of its rent.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

3. Resolution#052:2'2014: Supporting Northern Branch Light Rail Project

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, February 26, 2014

WHEREAS, the Northern Branch Light Rail Project will extend the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail from the current Tonnelles Avenue terminus to a terminus located at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Branch Light Rail Project was repetitively studied and has undergone years of planning; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson Bergen Light Rail Line does not have a station in Bergen County; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Branch Light Rail Project will provide more mass transit options for residents; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Branch Light Rail Project will reduce traffic and provide economic benefits for our region; and

WHEREAS, building the Northern Branch Light Rail Corridor will take considerable effort and coordination from all levels of government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Alpine supports the construction of the Northern Branch Light Rail Corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our representatives in the New Jersey State Legislature and New Jersey Transit

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

4. Resolution #053:2'2013 Authorizing Police Assistance for Gran Fondo Sunday May 18

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

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014

WHEREAS, Gran Fondo New York (GFNY) raises money for local charities and has held their 100 Mile Bike Tour event in previous years; and

WHEREAS, GFNY has again requested assistance from Alpine Police to control traffic to enable the cyclists to ride on a traffic-moderated course. The route is the same as the past 3 years: northbound entering Alpine's 9W northbound from PIP's Henry Hudson Drive, at PIP Exit 2 and southbound entering 9W from NYS and finishing along PIP's Henry Hudson Drive; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief Belcolle has no objections and will be actively coordinating with GFNY regarding the necessary police assistance; and

WHEREAS, GFNY agrees to pay all costs associated with this permission and police overtime upon receipt of invoices; and

WHEREAS, GFNY has provided their Certificate of Liability Insurance and will provide a Hold Harmless Agreement for review and approval by our Risk Manager.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine authorize the utilization of Alpine Police Officers for GFNY's 100 Mile Bike Tour to be held on Sunday, May 18, 2014.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

End of Consent Agenda Resolutions

Resolution #054:2'2013 Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer

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

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 17:27- 1.1 provides that no public work contracts can be awarded nor any monies paid until the prospective contractor has agreed to contract performance which complies with an approved affirmative action program; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 17:27- 3.5 provides that each public agency shall annually designate an officer or employee to serve as its public agency compliance officer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Jerry Beckmann, Acting Borough Clerk be appointed as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for term retroactive to February 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014, and

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the N.J.S. Department of Treasury, Division of Public Contracts Equal Opportunity Compliance; P.O. Box 209, Trenton, NJ 08625.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #055:2'2014 Appointing Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator

OFFERED BY: Councilman Cacouris **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014

BE IT RESOLVED that **Jerry Beckmann** is hereby appointed to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for a one year term retroactive to January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER IT RESOLVED, that copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Bergen County Office of Emergency Services.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNCIATIONS: WRITTEN AND ORAL None

Resolution #56:2'2014 EXECUTIVE SESSION: A Resolution providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

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, February 26, 2014

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) (4) Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:Police Contract

(b) (7) Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege:Cell Tower

(b)(7&9) Matters Relating to Litigation or the Potential Imposition of a Penalty: Block 43 Lot 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, assembled in public session on Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 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: Cacouris, Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session began at 8:25 P.M.
The public portion reconvened at 9:10 P.M.

Resolution #057:2'2014 Authorization Regarding Police Contract Negotiations

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein
at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 that in the matter of contract negotiations with Alpine PBA Local #399, Councilwoman Frankel is authorized to proceed in accordance with the discussion that took place in the Executive Session, which process may include going to arbitration should the current negotiations fail to produce a settlement.

Vote: Ayes: Cacouris, Frankel, Gerstein, Ornstein, Halbreich **Nays:** Garjian

MOTION CARRIED

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 February 26, 2014 at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Beckmann, Acting Municipal Clerk