

MAYOR AND COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 18, 2013 @ 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, December 18, 2013 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 New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the notice of this Regular Meeting held Wednesday, December 18, 2013 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	Absent
Gayle Gerstein, Councilwoman	Present	Joan Ornstein, Councilwoman	Present
John Halbreich, Councilman	Absent		

Staff Present on Dais: Borough Clerk Gail Warming-Tanno, Borough Engineer Gary Vander Veer, Russ Huntington, Attorney.

POLICE PROMOTION Commissioner Vicki Frankel thanked her committee Councilwoman Joan Ornstein and Councilman Halbreich along with Chief Belcolle who was included in the decision making. The Committee recommends Patrolman Stuart Conboy for promotion to Sergeant. Mayor Tomasko thanked the Committee for their work.

APPOINTMENT & OATH OF OFFICE: SERGEANT STUART CONBOY

Appointment - Mayor Tomasko appointed Stuart Conboy Sergeant.

Resolution #163:12'2013 Affirming the Promotion of Stuart Conboy to Sergeant

Upon a motion by Councilman Garjian, seconded by Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 to confirm the appointment of Stuart Conboy to the rank of Sergeant in the Alpine Police Department effective December 1, 2013

WHEREAS, Chapter 45-1 of the Municipal Code for the Borough of Alpine calls for a Police Department consisting of among other positions, one (1) or more Sergeants; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for the position of Sergeant of the Police Department of the Borough of Alpine; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council for the Borough of Alpine wish to promote Patrolman Stuart Conboy to the position of Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, this promotion shall be effective on December 1, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine that Patrolman Stuart Conboy be promoted to the position of Sergeant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the Resolution be forwarded to Police Chief Christopher Belcolle.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

The **Oath of Office** was administered to Sergeant Conboy.

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor and Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS None

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Mayor Tomasko advised the recent auction for \$2 million of one year notes went through at a price of 0.71%; this is better than last year despite lower volume. The rest of the report is on file.

Bank Of America Current Operating Acct **\$2,724,322.30**

Resolution #164: 12'2013: Approval of Bills and Claims

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 to approve the bills and claims, a copy of which are appended.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #165: 12'2013: Authorize Return of Tax Overpayment

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

WHEREAS, a Judgment was granted on September 11, 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>
22	16	Mahapetian* Vahe & Shake	\$4,187,900	\$4,000,000	2013	\$1,360.40

WHEREAS, the reduction in assessment was not recorded in time for the 2013 Assessment records for Block 22 Lot 16 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:

Vahe & Shake Mahapetian
& Richard Hubschman, Jr., Esq.
318 bergen Blvd.
Palisades Park, NJ 07650

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 use a refund for the tax overpayment

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

*(*note Judgment misspells name Maheptian listed in tax rolls as Nahapetian)*

Resolution #166: 12'2013: Authorize Return of Duplicate Tax Payment

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Frankel **SECONDED BY:** Councilwoman Gerstein at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

WHEREAS, the following property owner has made an overpayment of property taxes for the year 2013 resulting from duplicate payment received from the taxpayer and the tax servicing agency; and

WHEREAS, said property owner has 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 property owner:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Owner's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11	2.04	Shenfeld, Boris & Galina	204 Vaccaro Drive Cresskill, NJ	\$4,072.53

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #167: 12'2013: Authorize Return of Bonds and/or Escrow

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

at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 to authorize the return of the following escrow and/or bonds:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block / Lot</u>	<u>Type Escrow/Bond</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wei, Raymond L.	N/A	Fil Permit Escrow	\$4,800.00

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

TAX ASSESSOR's REPORT No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT Mayor Tomasko reported the Riverside Cooperative meeting this morning dealt with Individual Energy Aggregation, something towns are increasingly exploring to drive savings on their individual resident's energy bills, specifically electricity. (Gas prices fluctuate too much). The League had a course on this in Atlantic City and he believes we owe it to our residents to examine the information he has acquired. There is virtually no downside. The Borough passes an ordinance and hires an energy consultant who does the rest of the work. Typical savings to residents is 10%.

Next month is National Radon Awareness Month.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration Department No report.

Building Department Mayor Tomasko reported 64 scheduled inspections, 3 driveway permits, 6 tree permits, 1 soil moving application, 6 zoning review applications. The remainder of the report is on file.

Department of Public Works Councilman Garjian thanked Superintendent Wehmann and crew for snow removal and cleanup after snow/ice storms December 8 through the 17th. Leaf pickup interrupted by the storms but will be completed as soon as weather permits. Rest of report is on file. Mayor Tomasko noted the DPW did a marvelous job dealing with a tough, persistent storm.

Fire Department Councilwoman Gerstein advised the report is on file. Children of all ages can visit Santa at the Alpine Firehouse on Saturday, December 21st from 10AM – 12 Noon.

Police Department. Councilwoman Frankel reported 19 summonses issued and 4 accidents. Rest of the report is on file.

Resolution #168:12'2013: 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, December 18, 2013 to accept the reports of the Standing Committees.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich **MOTION CARRIED**

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON'S REPORT The school holiday concert is tomorrow night.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S REPORT Attorney Huntington wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT Borough Engineer Vander Veer distributed his report.

Closter Dock Road drainage improvements He has received a response from the County and will be proceeding with the project to prepare the requested revisions. He hopes to re-submit the application to the Department of Environmental Protection next month so they can complete the approvals and go out to bid so work can be done this summer.

He also wished everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Mayor Tomasko noted the Riverside Cooperative met this morning and wants a commitment by March from towns interested in participating in the road improvement program and the specifics by April 14, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS Resolutions #169-174:12'2013

1. Resolution #169:12'2013: Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting November 25, 2013

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, December 18, 2013 approving minutes of the Regular Meeting November 25, 2013.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Gerstein, Ornstein **Abstain:** Garjian **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

2 Resolution #170:12'2013: Approval of Minutes – Executive Session November 25, 2013

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, December 18, 2013 approving minutes of the Executive Session November 25, 2013.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Gerstein, Ornstein **Abstain:** Garjian **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

3. Resolution: #171:12'2013: Endorse Planning Board Approval Soil Movement Application Montammy Country Club Block 11 Lot 2 Montammy Drive

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

at this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

WHEREAS, Borough Ordinance 183-3D(5) lays down the procedure for review of an application for a soil movement permit in compliance with N.J.S.A. 40:20D-26b; and

WHEREAS, a soil movement application for Montammy Golf Club Block 11 Lot 2 Montammy Drive was reviewed by the Alpine Planning Board at a public hearing held on October 22, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Alpine Planning Board laid down their written recommendation to the Mayor and Council with respect to this application in a resolution approved at their regular meeting held on November 26, 2013 (copy attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council has examined the application and the recommendations of the Planning Board and have considered the results of the public hearing before the Planning Board;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine find that the proposed soil movement will not create conditions inimical to the public health, welfare and safety, nor create any drainage, soil erosion or other conditions of danger and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby approve said application subject to all conditions as laid out in the Planning Board's resolution of November 26, 2013.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Ornstein **Abstain:** Gerstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

4. Resolution: #172:12'2013: Authorizing Use of School Field – Tenafly Soccer Spring 2014

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

at this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 to approve the request by the Tenafly Soccer for Use of the Borough (Hillside Avenue/School) field beginning March 10, 2014 through June 20, 2014:

- Mondays and Thursdays between 3:30 pm and 6:45 pm
- During School Break April 14 – April 18, 2014 between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm
- Saturdays and Sundays March 15 – June 23, 2014 between 8:30 AM and dark

Said use is also subject to coordination of use with Alpine School who has priority use of the field. Such use is also subject to the Borough's Risk Management Policies for Use of Facilities, including but not limited to provision of a Certificate of Insurance listing the Borough as additional insured.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

5. Resolution: #173:12'2013: Authorizing Use of Church Street Field – Tenafly Little League Spring & Fall 2014

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

at this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 to approve the request by the Tenafly Lions Little League, Inc. for Use of the Borough (Church Street) field for

- weekday afternoons between 6:00 pm and dark beginning March 1, 2014 through July 30, 2014
- weekends (Sat & Sun) between 8:00 am and dark beginning March 1, 2014 through July 30, 2014
- weekday afternoons between 6:00 pm and dark beginning September 1, 2014 through October 30, 2014.

Such use is also subject to the Borough's Risk Management Policies for Use of Facilities, including but not limited to provision of a Certificate of Insurance listing the Borough as additional insured.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor and Council.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Resolution: #174:12'2013: Authorizing 2013 – 2014 Alpine Municipal Alliance Grant Extension Application

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

at this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, Borough Council was approved for a Municipal Alliance grant for the January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 grant term; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse has extended the 2013 grant term until June 30, 2014, in order to transition the grant to a fiscal rather than calendar year cycle;

WHEREAS, funding has been made available to Alpine Municipal Alliance in the amount of 50% of its approved 2013 grant total for the six-month extension period of January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014, contingent upon meeting the 25% Cash Match and 75% In-Kind grant requirement for the extension funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council does hereby authorize the submission of the grant extension for the Alpine Municipal Alliance grant in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 14,280.00
Cash Match	\$ 3,570.00
In Kind	\$ 10,710.00

The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance audit requirements.

VOTE: Ayes: Frankel, Garjian, Gerstein, Ornstein **Absent:** Cacouris, Halbreich

MOTION CARRIED

End of Consent Agenda

COMMUNICATIONS: WRITTEN AND ORAL

Mayor Tomasko distributed the draft quarterly newsletter for review and asked for comments as soon as possible so it can go out by the end of the year.

ADJOURNMENT Upon a motion by Councilwoman Gerstein, seconded by Councilwoman Frankel and approved by all the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Warming-Tanno, Borough Clerk