

## BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

CRESSKILL

BERGEN COUNTY

NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETINGMARCH 5, 2014

1. EMS Captain Henry McDonald led the Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The Borough Clerk announced that this is a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of which at least 48 hours' notice has been given by posting in the Borough Hall, publication in The Record and delivery to all members of the governing body.
3. Mayor Romeo called the meeting to order at 7:38 P.M.
4. Present: Council Members Cleary, Mueller, Savas, Spina, Tsigounis  
Also Present: Attorney Salvatore, Borough Officials Vaccaro, Laufeld, McKim, Mann, McDonald, Chief Wrixon  
Absent: Council Member Olmo
5. Motion by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Regular meeting of February 19, 2014.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous

Motion adopted.

## COMMUNICATIONS

6. Minutes of the following meetings:

Library Board of Trustees  
Planning Board

January 27, 2014  
February 11, 2014

Filed.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICIALS

7. Council Member Spina said he attended the BOE meeting where class size was discussed. Supt. Bellina effectively addressed the parents' questions, and the meeting went well.

Council Member Tsigounis said Camette Sarkisian is the newest member of the Historical Committee. Mayor Romeo said Richie Barretta is interested in joining the Historical Committee as well. He has some interesting pieces of historical memorabilia he is willing to donate to the town.

Council Member Tsigounis said on March 28<sup>th</sup> the Friends of the Cresskill Library will be hosting a movie night at the Library. The movie is "Chasing Ice" which is about climate change. A \$2 donation is requested.

Council Member Savas said the defibrillator at the Senior Center has been replaced and now matches the others in our public buildings.

The Community Center Board of Trustees did not have a February meeting but will be having it tomorrow. I would like to commend Barbara Mann and the Community Center staff for stepping in and assisting St. Therese when the boiler broke down. St. Therese held some classes at the Community Center after they evacuated their building.

Council Member Cleary said the Fire Dept. was quick to arrive at St. Therese when the boiler blew up.

Council Member Mueller said he has postponed the meeting regarding the tax assessments. I have spoken to some experts and they all have different opinions. We need to find our own independent expert and get their recommendation.

#### NEW BUSINESS

8. Borough Clerk Nasuto explained all items on the Consent Agenda.

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#### CONSENT AGENDA

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### \*Resolutions

9. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refunds due to overpayment of taxes:

| <u>TAX PERIOD</u>        | <u>BLOCK</u> | <u>LOT</u> | <u>NAME</u>   | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|---------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2013 | 55           | 68         | Regina Wasielewski Sallevolt<br>69 Jefferson Avenue<br>Cresskill, NJ 07626  | \$ 863.85     |
|                          |              |            | Mail to: Regina Wasielewski Sallevolt<br>c/o Fran Corbett<br>61 Jefferson Avenue<br>Cresskill, NJ 07626<br>(for: 69 Jefferson Avenue) |               |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2013 | 19           | 4          | Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith<br>43 Grant Avenue<br>Cresskill, NJ 07626   | \$ 603.25     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2013 | 191          | 7          | Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kogan<br>15 Ridge Road<br>Cresskill, NJ 07626   | \$ 847.76     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2013 | 22           | 1          | Mr. & Mrs. F. Bokil<br>34 Brookside Avenue<br>Cresskill, NJ 07626   | \$1,303.02    |

10. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refund due to Stipulation of Settlement on property assessment for Block 165, Lot 10.01 for 2013:

#### 2013

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Original Assessment:    | \$ 591,900.00        |
| Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$ 438,400.00</u> |
| Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 153,500.00        |
| Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>         |
| Tax Refund:             | \$ 3,703.96          |

Check to: John & Marie San Pietro  
126 Morningside Avenue  
Cresskill, NJ 07626  
(for: 126 Morningside Avenue)

11. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refund due to Stipulation of Settlement on property assessment for Block 177, Lot 35 for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013:

|                         | <u>2010</u>         | <u>2011</u>    |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Original Assessment:    | \$2,171,500.00      | \$2,171,500.00 |
| Tax Court Judgment:     | \$1,800,000.00      | \$1,800,000.00 |
| Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 371,500.00       | \$ 371,500.00  |
| Tax Rate:               | <u>2.300</u>        | <u>2.348</u>   |
| Tax Refund:             | \$ 8,544.50         | \$ 8,722.82    |
|                         | <u>2012</u>         | <u>2013</u>    |
| Original Assessment:    | \$2,682,500.00      | \$2,682,500.00 |
| Tax Court Judgment:     | \$2,500,000.00      | \$2,075,000.00 |
| Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 182,500.00       | \$ 607,500.00  |
| Tax Rate:               | <u>2.324</u>        | <u>2.413</u>   |
| Tax Refund:             | \$ 4,241.30         | \$ 14,658.98   |
| Total:                  | <u>\$ 36,167.60</u> |                |

12. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refunds for 2013, payable to Nicholas Sekas, Esq. due to Stipulation of Settlements on the property assessments for the following:

| <u>BLOCK</u> | <u>LOT</u> | <u>ASSESSMENT ADJUSTMENT</u> |                       |
|--------------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 91.04        | 18         | Original Assessment:         | \$2,245,100.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$2,045,100.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 200,000.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 4,826.00           |
| 91.06        | 2          | Original Assessment:         | \$1,679,800.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$1,579,000.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 100,800.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 2,432.30           |
| 91.06        | 11         | Original Assessment:         | \$2,122,600.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$1,849,900.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 272,700.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 6,580.25           |
| 90.01        | 12.021     | Original Assessment:         | \$1,216,400.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$1,094,700.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 121,700.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 2,936.62           |

13. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refunds for 2013, payable to Martin Sharit, Esq. due to Stipulation of Settlements on the property assessments for the following:

| <u>BLOCK</u> | <u>LOT</u> | <u>ASSESSMENT ADJUSTMENT</u> |                       |
|--------------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 90.01        | 18.03      | Original Assessment:         | \$1,378,500.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$1,100,000.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 278,500.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 6,720.21           |
| 92.07        | 35         | Original Assessment:         | \$ 534,600.00         |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 475,000.00</u>  |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 59,600.00          |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 1,438.15           |
| 209          | 4          | Original Assessment:         | \$1,472,000.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$1,272,000.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 200,000.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 4,826.00           |
| 202          | 4          | Original Assessment:         | \$ 559,600.00         |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 59,600.00          |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 1,438.15           |
| 72           | 1.02       | Original Assessment:         | \$ 820,100.00         |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 761,200.00</u>  |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 58,900.00          |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 1,421.25           |
| 1.01         | 15         | Original Assessment:         | \$ 71,400.00          |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 50,000.00</u>   |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 21,400.00          |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>          |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 516.38             |

14. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Tax Collector be, and hereby is, authorized to effect the following tax refunds for 2013, payable to David Witherspoon, Esq. due to Stipulation of Settlements on the property assessments for the following:

| <u>BLOCK</u> | <u>LOT</u> | <u>ASSESSMENT ADJUSTMENT</u> |                      |
|--------------|------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 92.05        | 26         | Original Assessment:         | \$ 412,300.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 375,000.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 37,300.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>         |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 900.05            |
| 54.01        | 65         | Original Assessment:         | \$ 435,100.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 391,500.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 43,600.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>         |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 1,052.07          |
| 200          | 18         | Original Assessment:         | \$ 551,700.00        |
|              |            | Tax Court Judgment:          | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u> |
|              |            | Decrease in Assessment:      | \$ 51,700.00         |
|              |            | Tax Rate:                    | <u>2.413</u>         |
|              |            | Tax Refund:                  | \$ 1,247.52          |

|       |     |                         |                       |
|-------|-----|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 35    | 238 | Original Assessment:    | \$ 407,000.00         |
|       |     | Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$ 360,000.00</u>  |
|       |     | Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 47,000.00          |
|       |     | Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>          |
|       |     | Tax Refund:             | \$ 1,134.11           |
| 164   | 11  | Original Assessment:    | \$ 358,000.00         |
|       |     | Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$ 342,000.00</u>  |
|       |     | Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 16,000.00          |
|       |     | Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>          |
|       |     | Tax Refund:             | \$ 386.08             |
| 121   | 12  | Original Assessment:    | \$ 603,200.00         |
|       |     | Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$ 572,000.00</u>  |
|       |     | Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 31,200.00          |
|       |     | Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>          |
|       |     | Tax Refund:             | \$ 752.86             |
| 76    | 57  | Original Assessment:    | \$ 557,400.00         |
|       |     | Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|       |     | Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 57,400.00          |
|       |     | Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>          |
|       |     | Tax Refund:             | \$ 1,385.06           |
| 91.04 | 12  | Original Assessment:    | \$2,444,100.00        |
|       |     | Tax Court Judgment:     | <u>\$2,200,000.00</u> |
|       |     | Decrease in Assessment: | \$ 244,100.00         |
|       |     | Tax Rate:               | <u>2.413</u>          |
|       |     | Tax Refund:             | \$ 5,890.13           |

15. WHEREAS, Matthew Vaccarino has applied for a Limo/Taxi Owner's License and has paid the required fees; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle has been inspected and approved by Chief Edward Wrixon;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the license be authorized for term ending December 31, 2014 subject to requirements of Chapter 246 of the Code of the Borough of Cresskill.

License No. 14-393  
2005 Lincoln Town Car  
Serial #1LNHM81W95Y606961

16. BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the following transfers be made in the 2013 budget appropriation reserves:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

|                           | <u>Account</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>To</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| Municipal Clerk – O/E     | 120-020        | 3,000.00    |           |
| Municipal Clerk – S/W     | 120-010        |             | 3,000.00  |
| Streets and Roads – O/E   | 290-020        | 500.00      |           |
| Vehicle Maintenance – O/E | 315-020        |             | 500.00    |
| Street Lighting           | 435-000        | 2,000.00    |           |
| Gasoline                  | 460-020        |             | 2,000.00  |
| Streets and Roads – S/W   | 290-010        | 10,000.00   |           |
| Streets and Roads – O/E   | 290-020        | 3,000.00    |           |
| Snow Removal – S/W        | 292-010        |             | 13,000.00 |

Total 18,500.00 18,500.00

17. WHEREAS, the Recreation Committee has scheduled various programs; and

WHEREAS, the following participants are due refunds for various reasons;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the recreation fees be returned to:

Manoj Sathananthan  
 (for: Jason Sathananthan)  
 39 Pierce Avenue  
 Cresskill, NJ 07626  
 Amount: \$156.00

Jinhee Son  
 (for: Minkyu Son)  
 2 Wright Place  
 Cresskill, NJ 07626  
 Amount: \$156.00

Steven Maier  
 (for: William Maier)  
 20 Beechwood Road  
 Cresskill, NJ 07626  
 Amount: \$156.00

18. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council, Borough of Cresskill, that the following March 2014 payroll be ratified and approved:

March 7, 2014

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Current Fund             | \$ 306,213.26    |
| Social Security/Medicare | 14,182.16        |
| Community Center         | 1,797.34         |
| Swim Pool                | 1,117.50         |
| Library                  | <u>14,155.00</u> |
|                          | \$ 337,465.26    |

Motions

19. Appoint Alexander F. Naylis as a Volunteer to the Cresskill Emergency Medical Services for a six-month probationary period.

REMARKS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CONCERNING THE CONSENT AGENDA ONLY [Reported by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia A. McKim.]

20. No one wished to be heard.

21. Motion by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to close the meeting to remarks on agenda items.

Roll Call: Yes - Unanimous Motion adopted.

22. Motion by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to consider all items marked with an asterisk as a single question.

On the question: The Borough Clerk announced that copies of all items marked with an asterisk have been posted in the Borough Hall and made available to the public.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

23. Motion by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to adopt all items with an asterisk as a single question.

Roll Call: Yes - Unanimous Motion adopted.

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## PRESENTATION OF BILLS

24. Resolution by Council Member Spina and seconded by Council Member Savas:

(Resolution in full on pages 50A through 50D.)

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Resolution adopted.

REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE BOROUGH  
[Reported by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia A. McKim.]

25. Mayor Romeo said it's been a long cold winter but it's getting to the end, and this weekend is daylight savings.

No one else wished to be heard.

26. Motion by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to close the meeting to remarks from the public.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

27. Motion at 7:49 P.M. by Council Member Savas and seconded by Council Member Cleary to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Yes - Unanimous. Motion adopted.

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Benedict Romeo  
Mayor

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Barbara A. Nasuto  
Borough Clerk