BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

CRESSKILL BERGEN COUNTY NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 17, 2021

- 1. Chief Wrixon 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 <u>The Record</u> and delivery to all members of the governing body.
- 3. Mayor Romeo called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.
- 4. Present: Council Members Cleary, Mueller, Olmo, Savas, Spina

Also Present: Attorney Diktas, Borough Officials Laufeld, Chief Wrixon, Deputy Chief

Domville

Absent: Council Member Kaplan

5. Motion by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Cleary to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Regular meeting of March 3, 2021.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS

6. Minutes of the following meeting:

Planning Board February 23, 2021

Filed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICIALS

7. Council Member Spina said the BOH wants to bring back the Cresskill 5K as part of the Mayor's Wellness Program.

Council Member Savas said Recreation's winter sports are finishing up and spring sports signups have started. The Easter Egg hunt will be on March 28th.

There is a second round of applications for the Library grant and they will apply. Council Member Olmo said there may be more money available this round due to towns not being able to match the grant in the first round due to COVID.

NEW BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

Bond Ordinance No. 21-20-1570 – 2021 Road Improvement Program

8. Resolution by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Spina to amend the 2021 Temporary Capital Budget.

Roll Call: Yes – Council Members Cleary, Mueller, Olmo, Savas, Spina

No-None

Absent – Council Member Kaplan

Abstain – None Resolution adopted.

(Resolution in full on pages 29A through 29B.)

9. Council Member Olmo announced receipt of Supplemental Debt Statement.

(Supplemental Debt Statement in full on pages 29C through 29G.)

10. Motion at 7:41 PM by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Mueller to introduce Bond Ordinance No. 21-20-1570 – 2021 Road Improvement Program on first reading by title only.

Roll Call: Yes – Council Members Cleary, Mueller, Olmo, Savas, Spina

No – None

Absent – Council Member Kaplan

Abstain – None Motion adopted.

11. Council Member Olmo read the title:

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,250,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

(Bond Ordinance in full on pages 29H through 29L.)

12. Resolution by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Spina:

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance 21-20-1570 entitled:

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,250,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

heretofore introduced, does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 7th day of April, 2021, at 7:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at the regular meeting place of the Mayor and Council, and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

Roll Call: Yes – Council Members Cleary, Mueller, Olmo, Savas, Spina

No - None

Absent – Council Member Kaplan

Abstain – None Resolution adopted.

13. Borough Clerk Maragliano explained all items on the Consent Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolutions

14. WHEREAS, Jacek Czernek 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, 2021 subject to requirements of Chapter 246 of the Code of the Borough of Cresskill.

License No. 21-436 2017 Mercedes GLS 550 Serial # 4JGDF7DE3HA883253

15. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council, Borough of Cresskill, that the following March 2021 payroll be ratified and approved:

March 12, 2021

Current Fund	\$ 384,615.69
Community Center	3,635.95
Library	12,234.06
	\$ 400,485.70

16. WHEREAS, Eyal and Ann Ben Yosef are the taxpayers for real estate designated as Block 210, Lot 5 on the official tax map of the Borough of Cresskill and better known as 7 Eisenhower Drive, Cresskill, New Jersey (the "Property"); and WHEREAS, Eyal and Ann Ben Yosef have made application to the Tax Court of New Jersey to have the assessment of the property listed above adjusted for tax year 2020; and

WHEREAS, Eyal and Ann Ben Yosef have agreed to withdraw the applications to the Tax Court of New Jersey for all years prior to 2020, 2017, 2018 and 2019 appeals and the Borough will withdraw its counterclaims up through 2020; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed that the provisions of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 54:51A-8 (Freeze Act) shall not apply; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are satisfied that after proper review and analysis, the settlement, as set forth below, is reasonable and in the Borough's best interests;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the adjustments of the assessments of the property specified above be and are hereby approved and ratified as follows:

Year: 2017	Original <u>Assessment</u>	County Board <u>Judgment</u>	Requested Tax Court Judgment
LAND: IMPROVEMENTS: TOTAL:	\$ 500, 000.00 \$ 761, 900.00 \$ 1,261, 900.00	N/A <u>N/A</u> N/A	Withdrawn
	Original	County Board	Requested Tax
<u>Year: 2018</u>	Assessment	<u>Judgment</u>	Court Judgment

<u>Year: 2019</u>	Original <u>Assessment</u>	County Board <u>Judgment</u>	Requested Tax Court Judgment
LAND:	\$ 501,500.00	N/A	Withdrawn
IMPROVEMENTS:	\$ 828,200.00	<u>N/A</u>	
TOTAL:	\$ 1,329,700.00	N/A	
Year: 2020	Original <u>Assessment</u>	County Board <u>Judgment</u>	Requested Tax Court Judgment
LAND:	\$ 504,000.00	N/A	\$ 504,000.00
IMPROVEMENTS:	\$ 817,400.00	<u>N/A</u>	\$ 767,400.00
TOTAL:	\$1,321,400.00	N/A	\$ 1,271,400.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Harwood Lloyd, LLC, and hereby is, authorized to execute the Stipulation of Settlement memorializing the settlement of this matter on behalf of the Borough of Cresskill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper officials be, and hereby are, authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the assessments.

17. WHEREAS, Isaac and Orna Ben-Avraham are the taxpayers for real estate designated as Block 91.03, Lot 8 on the official tax map of the Borough of Cresskill and better known as 120 Engle Street, Cresskill, New Jersey (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, Isaac and Orna Ben-Avraham have made application to the Tax Court of New Jersey to have the assessment of the property listed above adjusted for the tax year 2020; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:51A-8 (Freeze Act) shall not apply; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are satisfied that after proper review and analysis, the settlement, as set forth below, is reasonable and in the Borough's best interests;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the adjustment of the assessment of the property specified above be and is hereby approved and ratified as follows:

Year 2020	Original Assessment	County Board Judgment	Requested Tax Court Judgment
LAND:	\$ 578,000.00	N/A	\$ 578,000.00
IMPROVEMENTS:	\$1,692,900.00	N/A	\$1,636,600.00
TOTAL:	\$2,270,900.00	N/A	\$2,214,600.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Harwood Lloyd, LLC be, and hereby is, authorized to execute the Stipulation of Settlement memorializing the settlement of this matter on behalf of the Borough of Cresskill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper officials be, and hereby are, authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the assessments.

18. 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 2019 2nd quarter taxes:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	NAME	<u>AMOUNT</u>
123	137	Frank Cassarino Trste 2248 Oceanforest Drive West Atlantic Beach, FL 32233 (for: 281 Madison Avenue)	\$ 500.00

166 36 Lorraine Marie Grieco \$ 368.67 35 Margie Avenue Cresskill, NJ 07626

19. <u>2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET</u>

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to various Appropriations listed below and no adequate provision has been made in the 2021 temporary appropriations for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purpose above mentioned, and

WHEREAS, said total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2021 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$ 2,000,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:4-20:

1. The following temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made for:

OPERATIONS - WITHIN CAPS

Public Employees Retirement System	\$	411,328.00
Police/Firemen's Retirement System		1,062,374.00
Police Department		
Salaries and Wages		125,000.00
Police School Marshalls		
Salaries and Wages		75,000.00
Fire Department		
Salaries and Wages		25,000.00
Emergency Medical Services		
Salaries and Wages		30,000.00
Snow Removal		
Salaries and Wages		30,000.00
Board of Health		
Salaries and Wages		5,000.00
Telephone		10,000.00
Social Security		26,298.00
Capital Improvement Fund		50,000.00
To	otal	\$1.850.000.00

- 2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided for in the 2021 budget under the various titles listed above.
- 3. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

Benedict Romeo, Mayor	
Francesca Maragliano, Borough Clerk	

20. BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the following transfers be made in the 2020 budget appropriation reserves:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

	Account	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Police – S/W	240-010	60,000.00	
Streets and Roads – O/E	290-020	30,000.00	
Electricity	430-020	11,000.00	
Gasoline	460-020	20,000.00	
Sewer – O/E	455-020		121,000.00
Revenue Administration – O/E	145-020	2,500.00	
Revenue Administration – S/W	145-010		2,500.00
Emergency Management – S/W	252-010	7,500.00	
Fire Department – S/W	255-010		7,500.00
Total		131,000.00	131,000.00

- 21. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the Cresskill Fire Department has furnished a certified list of volunteer members (annexed hereto), who have qualified for credit under the LOSAP program for the Calendar Year 2020 and said list is hereby approved.
- 22. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, Bergen County, State of New Jersey, that Jeffrey Kropiewnicki be appointed to the position of Part Time Tax Collector/Official Tax Search Officer in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey at an annual salary of \$5,000.00, effective April 1, 2021.
- 23. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.1 et seq requires each municipality to appoint a Chief Municipal Finance Officer; and

WHEREAS, there currently exists a vacancy in the position of Chief Municipal Finance Officer for the Borough of Cresskill; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:9-140.13(f) permits the temporary appointment of a Chief Municipal Finance Officer who does not hold a municipal finance officer certificate for a period not to exceed one year; and

WHEREAS, Cresskill wishes to appoint Alison Altano, who does not hold a municipal finance officer certificate, as its Temporary Chief Municipal Finance Officer effective April 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Alison Altano wishes to accept such appointment on the terms recited in this Resolution;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Cresskill, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Alison Altano be and hereby is appointed as Temporary Chief Municipal Finance Officer of the Borough of Cresskill.

24. WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Cresskill was previously authorized to advertise for Bids for the Reconstruction of Engle Street, 2019 N.J.D.O.T. Municipal Aid Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Notice, the receipt and opening of Bids took place on March 11, 2021; at which time the following bid was received:

Company	Base Bid
Onque Technologies Inc.	\$418,320.50

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Cresskill has confirmed the availability of funds for the project, specifically that the project will be funded through Capital Ordinance and NJ DOT Grants; and

WHEREAS, Azzolina Fuery Engineering has recommended acceptance of the Bid submitted by Onque Technologies, Inc. as being the apparent low and most Responsible Bidder;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Cresskill does hereby award the Bid for Reconstruction of Engle Street, 2019 N.J.D.O.T. Municipal Aid Program, to Onque Technologies, Inc. in the amount of Four Hundred Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Dollars and Fifty cents (\$418,320.50); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Bid Award is subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation approval and issuance of Grant Funds in the amount of Two Hundred Two Thousand Dollars. (\$202,000.00)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough requires the submission of the following Original Documents: Performance Bond and Payment Bond, Certificate of Insurance, Affirmative Action Affidavit and Initial Project Workforce Report (Form AA-201) before the Contract is issued; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Attorney is hereby authorized to prepare all necessary documents to effectuate this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Benedict Romeo or, in his absence, Borough Administrator Edward Wrixon, is authorized to execute, on behalf of the Borough, the Approved Construction Contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Certified to be True copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Marini Brothers Construction Co, Inc; Azzolina & Fuery Engineering; Harold Laufeld, Borough CFO; Francesca Maragliano, Borough Clerk; Edward Wrixon, Borough Administrator; and Christos J. Diktas, Esq., Borough Attorney.

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

WHEREAS, the following participant was unable to attend;

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

Kyunghyun Min (for: Kyunghyun Min) 85 6th Street Cresskill, NJ 07626 Amount: \$66.63

26. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northvale hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of work, materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Cresskill, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in the Riverside Cooperative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on the 17th day of March, 2021, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

TITLE

This Resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Borough of Cresskill;

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the Mayor/Administrator/Manager is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency;

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the Borough of Cresskill shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et. seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statues of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

CERTIFICATION

ATTEST:	BY:	
Francesca Maragliano, Municipal Clerk	Benedict Romeo, Mayor	

27. WHEREAS, the Borough of Cresskill, pursuant to Ordinance, has created the Cresskill Volunteer Ambulance & Emergency Services Company (hereinafter "CVAES"); and

WHEREAS, the CVAES Members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council; and

WHEREAS, fulfilling the Membership requirements, as established by the Mayor & Council and the Rules and Regulations of the Cresskill Fire Department and Cresskill Emergency Services Department, plus the requirements annotated in Ordinance §15-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the following individual:

Michael Ramsay - EMS

have petitioned the Mayor seeking to become a Member of the CVAES; and

WHEREAS, each Petition/Application has been submitted to the Board of Fire Officers and approved by same, subject to the final approval and appointment by the Mayor and Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above individuals are hereby appointed by Mayor Benedict Romeo and each respective appointment is confirmed by the Council, subject to the respective appointee complying with the Cresskill Revised General Ordinances, specifically, §15-1 et seq., specifically §15-5, Requirements of the Volunteer Division; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Certified to be True Copy of this Resolution be served upon each Appointee; Fire Chief Christopher Ulshoefer; Harold Laufeld, CFO; Edward Wrixon, Borough Administrator; Francesca Maragliano, Borough Clerk

28. WHEREAS, Paul T. Reissner was recognized for his achievements and services by the Boy Scouts of America Troop 1345, Dumont NJ and recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Award represents the highest rank in Scouting and is awarded only to those recipients who have given many years of devotion to the principles of the Boy Scout movement; and

WHEREAS, Paul's Eagle Scout project was renovating the gear racks at Dumont Fire Department Company #1 firehouse. The racks in the firehouse were in desperate need for repair and interfering with firefighters' ability to respond to an alarm. He designed and constructed new racks that gave the firefighters easy access to their gear.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council, Borough of Cresskill, that Paul T. Reissner be, and hereby is, commended for attaining this recognition of his achievement.

Motions

- 29. Appoint Dr. Clara Lee and Allison Imahiyerobo to the Board of Health for unexpired terms ending 12/31/23.
- 30. Appoint Amy Cusick to the Board of Health for term ending 12/31/21.

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

- 31. No one wished to be heard.
- 32. Motion by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Cleary to close the meeting to remarks on agenda items.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

33. Motion by Council Member Olmo 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.

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

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

35. Resolution by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Mueller:

(Resolution in full on pages 36A through 36F.)

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.]

36. Council Member Savas commended the Police and Fire Departments for their response time to an electrical fire smell at her house late Sunday night.

Mayor Romeo said we awarded the Engle Street repaving contract. Also, we were awarded a \$100,000 grant by Bergen County Open Space for fixing the Merrifield property.

Peter Lulaj, 173 Wilson Drive said he has a couple of runoffs that run through his property and they're causing a lot of erosion. Who can resolve this problem? Mr. Lulaj supplied pictures and Mayor Romeo said he would have the Borough Engineer and Building Inspector look at it.

Deputy Chief Domville said he received a note thanking Officer Basket and Officer Solo for how kind they were and their quick response on March 9th to a panic alarm from 911. Thankfully is was a false alarm.

Thanks to Borough Attorney Diktas for assisting in the problem the Police Department has been having getting O&R to repair streetlights. We already received a written response and the light issues on Hoover Drive and Hillside Avenue will be repaired by the end of next week.

CFO Laufeld said this is his last meeting and thanked the Mayor and Council for his 13 years here. I hope I served the residents of Cresskill well and it's been a great place to work and end my career. I'm going to miss everyone. The Mayor and Council all said Harold did a great job and was a true pleasure to work with. Thank you for all you've done.

No one else wished to be heard.

Roll Call:

37. Motion by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Mueller to close the meeting to remarks from the public.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

Yes – Unanimous.

38. Motion at 7:55 P.M. by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Mueller to adjourn the meeting.

Motion adopted.

Borough Clerk

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Benedict Romeo	
Mayor	
	Francesca Maragliano