

BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

CRESSKILL

BERGEN COUNTY

NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 4, 2024

1. Chief Ulshoefer 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 7:07 P.M.
4. Present: Council Members Kaplan, McLaughlin, Olmo, Schultz-Rummel, Spina
Also Present: Attorney Diktas, Administrator Lavin, Chief Domville, Chief Ulshoefer
Absent: Council Member Savas
5. Motion by Council Member Spina and seconded by Council Member Schultz-Rummel to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Regular meeting of November 13, 2024.

All in Favor. None Opposed.

Motion adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS

6. Minutes of the following meetings:

Planning Board
Board of Health

November 12, 2024
September 17, 2024

Filed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICIALS

7. Council Member Spina said Cresskill Cares helped approximately 17 families with Thanksgiving dinners. They are currently working with high school/middle school students putting together care packages for veterans.

Council Member Olmo said leaf pickup season is over, but you can bring them bagged to the DPW. There has been talk that due to stormwater controls, eventually we will not be permitted to put leaves curbside.

Council Member Kaplan said the Library held a hot cocoa with a cop event which was successful. The heating system at the library broke down and closed for two days but has since reopened.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCE ON FINAL READING

Ordinance No. 24-18-1654 – Amend Chapter 80 – Animals - Fees

8. Motion at 7:13 PM by Council Member Spina and seconded by Council Member Olmo to hear Ordinance No. 24-18-1654 on final reading by title only, Amend Chapter 80 – Animals - Fees.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

(Ordinances in full on page 132A in Minutes of Regular Mayor and Council Meeting held November 13, 2024.)

9. The Borough Clerk announced the Ordinance was published in The Record on November 15, 2024, posted in Borough Hall, and copies made available to the public.
10. Mayor Romeo opened the meeting to the public. [Reported by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia A. McKim.]
11. No one wished to be heard.
12. Motion by Council Spina and seconded by Council Member Olmo to close the public hearing.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that Ordinance No. 24-18-1654, entitled:

AMEND CHAPTER 80 – ANIMALS - FEES

pass its second and final reading, is hereby adopted and shall be published according to law.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Resolution adopted.

Ordinance No. 24-19-1655 – Amend Chapter 255 – Towing

14. Motion at 7:15 PM by Council Member Schultz-Rummel and seconded by Council Member Olmo to hear Ordinance No. 24-19-1655 on final reading by title only, Amend Chapter 255 – Towing.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

(Ordinances in full on page 132B in Minutes of Regular Mayor and Council Meeting held November 13, 2024.)

15. The Borough Clerk announced the Ordinance was published in The Record on November 15, 2024, posted in Borough Hall, and copies made available to the public.
16. Mayor Romeo opened the meeting to the public. [Reported by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia A. McKim.]
17. No one wished to be heard.
18. Motion by Council Schultz-Rummel and seconded by Council Member Olmo to close the public hearing.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

19. Resolution by Council Member Schultz-Rummel and seconded by Council Member Olmo:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that Ordinance No. 24-19-1655, entitled:

AMEND CHAPTER 255 – TOWING

pass its second and final reading, is hereby adopted and shall be published according to law.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Resolution adopted.

Ordinance No. 24-20-1656 – An Ordinance to Fix the Salaries, Wages and Compensation of the Officers and Employees of the Borough of Cresskill for the Calendar Year 2025

20. Motion at 7:16 PM by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Schultz-Rummel to hear Ordinance No. 24-20-1656 on final reading by title only, An Ordinance to Fix the Salaries, Wages and Compensation of the Officers and Employees of the Borough of Cresskill – Year 2025.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

(Ordinances in full on pages 132C through 132G in Minutes of Regular Mayor and Council Meeting held November 13, 2024.)

21. The Borough Clerk announced the Ordinance was published in The Record on November 15, 2024, posted in Borough Hall, and copies made available to the public.
22. Mayor Romeo opened the meeting to the public. [Reported by Deputy Borough Clerk Patricia A. McKim.]
23. No one wished to be heard.
24. Motion by Council Olmo and seconded by Council Member Schultz-Rummel to close the public hearing.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Motion adopted.

25. Resolution by Council Member Olmo and seconded by Council Member Schultz-Rummel:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that Ordinance No. 24-20-1656, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARIES, WAGES AND
COMPENSATION OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
OF THE BOROUGH OF CRESSKILL - YEAR 2025

pass its second and final reading, is hereby adopted and shall be published according to law.

Roll Call: Yes – Unanimous Resolution adopted.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolutions

27. WHEREAS, the Chief of the Fire Department has requested the purchase of (1) 2025 Ford Explorer Active 4WD, Vin #1FMUK8DH2SGB19653 in the amount of \$40,993.40 for Fire Prevention; and Available ARPA funds will be appropriately utilized for this purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has verified that the funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill authorizes the purchase under NJ Cooperative Purchasing Alliance BID #: BC-BID-24-43 CO-OP# CK04 from Paramus Ford, Inc. d/b/a All American Ford of Paramus, 375 Route 17 South, Paramus NJ 07652.

28. WHEREAS, the Superintendent of the Department of Works has requested the painting of the Tallman House, Gazebo and Detached Garage for the Borough of Cresskill; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the appropriation is \$18,995.00. Available ARPA funds will be appropriately utilized for this appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Chief Financial Officer has verified that the funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill authorizes the painting of the Tallman House, Gazebo and Detached Garage with M.V.P. Painting Co. located at 18 Pierce Avenue, Cresskill, NJ 07626.

29. WHEREAS, the Chief of the Fire Department has requested, in order to be in compliance with the Fire Code the purchase of an Edwards Fire Alarm System for the Fire Department Headquarters located at 51 Madison Avenue, Cresskill, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the appropriation created is \$23,895.00. Available ARPA funds will be appropriately utilized for this purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Chief Financial Officer has verified that the funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill authorizes the purchase of a Fire Alarm System for the Fire Department Headquarters from United Federated Systems, Inc. located at 10 Gordon Drive, Suite 201 Totowa, NJ 07512.

30. RESOLUTION GRANTING TAX EXEMPT STATUS DISABLED VETERAN AND AUTHORIZING REFUNDING PROPERTY TAXES PAID

WHEREAS, Arthur Tassaro, who resides 681 Margie Avenue (Block 167, Lot 39) in the Borough of Cresskill has been deemed a 100% permanently disabled veteran in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30; and

WHEREAS, Arthur Tassaro made the appropriate claim for tax exemption through the Borough of Cresskill Tax Assessor's Office as a 100% permanently disabled veteran and was approved effective November 6, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Arthur Tassaro submitted an official letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs with the Borough of Cresskill Tax Assessor confirming this information; and

WHEREAS, Arthur Tassaro is seeking a refund for property taxes paid as follows:

Q4 2024 \$1,899.24 (pro-rated)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, that the property known as 681 Margie Avenue (Block 167, Lot 39) is hereby designated as tax-exempt property owner, Arthur Tassaro, is a 100% permanently disabled veteran effective November 6, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all property taxes on said property are hereby cancelled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, that a refund of property taxes paid is hereby granted and the Treasurer is authorized to issue a borough check payable as follows:

Payable to:

Arthur Tassarò
 681 Margie Avenue
 Cresskill, NJ 07626
 Total Refund \$1,899.24

- 31. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that Michael McGee be appointed as a permanent Police Officer for the Borough of Cresskill, effective from December 4, 2024, as recommended by Police Chief James Domville.
- 32. 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 th qtr 2024	301	21	Corelogic Attn: Recoveries Dept. PO Box 9205 Coppell, TX 75019-9214 <i>(for: 114 Jackson Drive)</i>	\$ 8,926.83
4 th qtr 2024	35	222	North Bergen Title Agency, Inc. 174 Grand Avenue, 3 rd floor Englewood, NJ 07631 <i>(for: 169 6th Street)</i>	\$ 2,735.60
4 th qtr 2024	54	2.01	Magi Sabbagh 35 Jefferson Avenue Cresskill, NJ 07626	\$ 250.00
4 th qtr 2024	203	1	James Giannone 42 Pierce Avenue Cresskill, NJ 07626	\$ 250.00
4 th qtr 2024 1 st qtr 2025 2 nd qtr 2025	1.05	14	Corelogic Attn: Natalie Nerio 3001 Hackberry Road Irving, TX 75063 <i>(for: 8 Douglas Drive)</i>	\$20,919.08

- 33. WHEREAS, Jason Mitchell was the custodian of the Recreation Petty Cash Fund; and
 WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:5-21, the Borough of Cresskill is changing custodians to Maureen Alvarez; and
 WHEREAS, Maureen Alvarez is covered under a Joint Insurance Fund Blanket Crime policy, BER240101-85.
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes such action and a copy of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval.

- 34. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council, Borough of Cresskill, that the following November 2024 payrolls be ratified and approved:

<u>November 15, 2024</u>	
Current Fund	\$ 384,668.07
Community Center	2,214.90
Library	<u>15,823.42</u>

\$ 402,706.39

November 29, 2024

Current Fund \$ 390,371.41
 Community Center 2,214.90
 Library 15,860.27

\$ 408,446.58

35. Emergency Appropriation in Accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:4-46 - Emergency Community Center Appropriation for HVAC

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect to the Community Center HVAC System, and

WHEREAS, the winter recreation programs will be impacted as the programs would not be able to occur with no heat in the facility; and

WHEREAS, the installation and repair of the HVAC system at the Community Center is necessary for the programs to continue and for the Community Center to be a shelter which could impact the safety and welfare of the residents with the heat shutting down during cold weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-46 provides for the creation of an emergency appropriation for the purpose mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the emergency appropriation created by this resolution is \$ 77,500.00. Available ARPA funds will be appropriately utilized for this appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing appropriation together with prior appropriations does not exceed three (3) percent of the total operating appropriations in the budget for 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, (by not less than 2/3 of all governing members affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-46, the emergency appropriation is hereby made for the installation and repair for the Community Center’s HVAC system in the amount of \$ 77,500.00.

36. WHEREAS, David Laganis/Classical Transit LLC 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 James Domville;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the license be authorized for term ending December 31, 2025 subject to requirements of Chapter 246 of the Code of the Borough of Cresskill.

License No. 25-441
 2024 Chevy Suburban
 Vin # 1GNSKCKDORR116089

37. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Cresskill that the following transfers be made in the 2024 Budget Appropriations:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

	<u>Account</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
General Administration – S&W	100-010		\$30,000
Financial Administration – S&W	130-010	\$30,000	
Police Class 3 Officers - S&W	248-010		45,000
Police – S&W	240-010	45,000	
Engineering – O/E	165-020		50,000
Police – O/E	240-020	50,000	

- 44. Chief Domville said he attended the North Jersey AAA awards where Cresskill received an award. Also, Crossing Guard Yvonne Caldarulo was honored for 26 years of service and Officer Grubecki received a hero award for all his work in town and with the county.

Council Member Spina said the blinking stop signs on Brookside Avenue are helping make it more visible. Chief Domville thanked Supt. Noseworthy for their quick work getting them installed.

Council Member McLaughlin commended the DPW for the holiday lights they put up.

No one else wished to be heard.

- 45. Motion at 7:22 P.M. by Council Member Spina and seconded by Council Member Olmo to close the meeting and adjourn.

All in Favor. None Opposed.

Motion adopted.

Benedict Romeo
Mayor

Francesca Maragliano
Borough Clerk