

**Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Combined Work and Regular Session Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.**

A combined Work and Regular Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held in the Municipal Building at 500 West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, New Jersey on December 21, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Wilczynski.

Linda Cervino, the Municipal Clerk, read the open public meetings statement: “In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and on the Borough Website, published in The Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to The Ridgewood News and Star-Ledger. Notice of this meeting by the December 8, 2023, Sunshine Notice was sent to The Record, The Ridgewood News and Star Ledger and has been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and Borough website.”

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers, Susanne Lovisolo, Ed O’Connell, Matthew O’Toole, Tyler Yaccarino, Joseph Daloisio and Mayor Amy Wilczynski.

Council President Liz Homan arrived at 7:35 p.m.

ABSENT: None; however, see above.

ALSO PRESENT: Raymond Wiss, Borough Attorney
Linda Louise Cervino, Municipal Clerk
Alison Altano, Interim Borough Administrator/CFO
Michael Dillon, Police Chief

FLAG SALUTE: Mayor Wilczynski led the salute to the flag

AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Wilczynski reviewed the Consent Agenda, which are routine matters enacted by one motion. She pointed out a few specifically below.

RES 23-262: Approval of ABC Vault Partners, LLC vs. Borough of Allendale tax appeal settlement.

RES 23-263: Approval of Mirante, Alexander A. & Lisa vs. Borough of Allendale tax appeal settlement.

RES 23-264: Approval of Elman, Stephen & Amy vs. Borough of Allendale tax appeal settlement.

RES 23-265: Award for the alternate bid amount for the Allendale Community Center project awarded to Dinallo Construction Corporation.

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- RES 23-266: Budget Transfers.
- RES 23-267: Award contract for as needed snow plowing & removal services – borough roadways January 2024, February 2024, March 2024, November 2024 and December 2024 – Conquest Construction, Inc.
- RES 23-268: Award contract for Allendale Firehouse Bathroom Renovation – ADA Bathroom Project – HM Company, LLC.
- RES 23-269: Approval of December 21, 2023 list of bills. Councilwoman Lovisolo reviewed the bill list as did Mayor Wilczynski.
- RES 23-270: A resolution authorizing and approving employment agreement between the Borough of Allendale and Alison Altano to serve as CFO and Borough Administrator.
- RES 23-271: A resolution authorizing and approving employment agreement between the Borough of Allendale and Andrew Agugliaro to serve as Superintendent to the Department of Public Works.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Councilwoman Lovisolo, second by Councilman O’Toole that the Consent Agenda be and is hereby approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Homan:	absent	Councilman O’Toole:	aye
Councilwoman Lovisolo:	aye	Councilman Yaccarino:	aye
Councilman O’Connell:	aye	Councilman Daloisio:	aye

(See Resolutions 23-262 through 23-271 attached and made a part hereof)

ADMINISTRATION:

Council Committee Reports:

Councilman Ed O’Connell, Department of Public Works, stated that the DPW was requested to assist with the storm issues around 4 a.m. with road closures between West Crescent Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Hillside Avenue, on West Orchard Street between De Mercurio Drive and Allen Street due to flooding. Barricades and cones were also deployed on Crescent Bend by Berkshire Place due to downed wires. Throughout the day, the DPW crew cleared storm drains and picked up large branches that were obstructing the roadways. The Recycling Center will be open this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will accept storm-related debris from Allendale residents. Ron’s budget is well under. The DPW is in good shape moving forward with Andy. I would just like to say it’s been a pleasure working with you, Ron, throughout the years. I don’t think we’ve always seen eye-to-eye, but we’ve always shook hands. I wish you the best of luck. Thank you for all your work.

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Councilman Joseph Daloisio, Land Use Board, stated that the Land Use Committee met last week on December 14, 2023. We had a decent size agenda and a lot of resident issues that the committee discussed. Several of the issues our borough engineer, Michael Vreeland, is looking into a little deeper. Our code official, Mr. Hackett, is also dealing with a couple of questions he had with some residents in regards to some variances and some issues that the committee decided should come before the Land Use Board, so he's going to notify those residents of that. Most of the issues were settled and taken care of and are being looked into further. As we've been doing for the last 12 months, we're continuing to look into the language of the code to update certain sections to make it more modern and more helpful to the residents.

Ron, I've only had a chance to work with you for a year, but it's been a pleasure. Your help, knowledge and experience has been invaluable to the Land Use Committee and I appreciate everything you do and have done. I wish you all the best. I know you're going to be a great mayor. Good luck.

Councilwoman Lovisolo, Finance, Human Resources and Administration/Council Liaison to Library Board, welcomed again Andy and Alison. We've had a great year. As this year ends, I just want to say that it's been a pleasure working with everyone up here on this dais and in this room. We had a new mayor this year who challenged us all to think outside of the box. Thank you for your leadership, your friendship and for the hours and hours of time that you devote to our borough.

To Councilman Daloisio, it was great being your second on Land Use. We had a full agenda at every committee meeting and you led us through all of it with your expertise and your follow-through. I just want to sincerely thank you.

I want to thank my committee, Finance, Admin, HR, councilwoman Liz Homan, Mayor Wilczynski, CFO, and Linda Cervino and John Gil, and our retiring Borough Administrator, Ron Kistner. I want to thank everyone up here. Happy New Year to everyone. Let's go Allendale!

Councilpresident Homan, Water, Sewer and Public Utilities, apologized for her late arrival. As far as water and sewer in town, you continue to see digs being done in front of residents' home for the lead and copper rule. It's Veolia trying to identify individually what the water line into the home is made of. I encourage people to continue to allow that to happen and certainly read carefully the documentation that is left at the home because even though they may dig and identify that that side at the street it is copper, there is the possibility inside of the home that there may be something else. I do encourage residents to actually go downstairs in their basement, which is generally where the water service line comes in and actually see what that might be made of. If they don't know how to do that, it is perfectly acceptable to call Veolia and ask to have somebody come in and take a look at that.

Ray's team, thank you for continuing to move forward all of our little projects in order to complete the transaction with Veolia. Hopefully, that will happen the end of the first or second quarter of 2024.

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As far as the sewer goes, we are continuing to work with Saddle River on the agreement and I am hopeful that that will wrap up within the first month or two of 2024.

Councilman O'Toole, Public Safety, stated that this past Sunday into Monday the borough was impacted by over four inches of rain which caused significant flooding around town. The police department and the public works assured the safety of motorists while working in conjunction with the schools to assist. Emergency Management is working on updating our emergency operations plan which is due for renewal the first quarter of 2024. All NFPA testing of fire department apparatus and equipment is completed for the 2023. Finally, the project to make the firehouse bathroom ADA compliant is moving forward with the contract just awarded on the consent agenda.

Councilman Yaccarino, Facilities, Parks and Recreation, stated that we are moving on with Phase I of the concession stand that was awarded at the last meeting, so a lot of fast-moving progress to be coming on that in the near future so we're excited to get that done.

With the storms that happened this week luckily no major damage to Crestwood or any of our facilities, which we're thankful for that.

I also want to say on a personal note, wrapping up my first year here on the council working with such a supportive group of people, mayor under your leadership, has been a rewarding experience, a learning curve and I look forward to going into 2024 with what I've learned this year and applying it to next year.

Staff Reports:

Linda Louise Cervino, Municipal Clerk, thanked Alison Altano for making the amazing changes in the Clerk's office. Ron, it was a pleasure working with you. Thank you for everything you've done for me and for the borough. Best of luck.

Alison Altano, Interim Borough Administrator/CFO, stated for the Finance Department, I just want to acknowledge that our tax collector, Gina Wittmaack, was able to successfully collect all prior year taxes this year, which would make this the fifth year in a row that the borough has not had a tax sale. With the end of the year coming to a close, the Finance Department is really just closing all financial matters and beginning the 2024 budget process.

For Administration, we've been making a lot of positive changes by updating a lot of our offices. We recently had the opportunity to get file cabinets from a firm that was relocating. With the help of everybody within the borough, we were able to get it in such short notice and really update the offices.

I'm trying to get to know everybody and get acquainted with things and fill my new role. I do feel it's been a smooth transition. Ron will truly be missed. I hope to continue to put in the same efforts that he's always put forward.

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John Gil, Director of Communications, stated that he's working on a lot of the end of the year stuff, closing out. Loading all 2024 work days on there and getting some updates. I know the Green Team has a lot of updates which I will get to in the next couple of weeks. The garbage and recycling guide should be coming in your mailbox right after Christmas, but everything is updated on the website as of today.

Congratulations to Ron on your retirement. It's been a great three and a half years that I've been here working with you. I thank you for everything.

Mike Dillion, Chief of Police, stated that he has no report other than Happy Holidays and New Year. To the Mayor and Council, thank you for your continued support of the police department. I look forward to 2024, including the swearing in of two new officers at the next meeting.

Andrew Agugliaro, DPW Superintendent, stated that it's been a wonderful first four days. I got my feet wet, literally, on my first day. Thank you for hiring me and I look forward to working with you all. Ron, it's been a pleasure for the past four days.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Wilczynski stated that 210 has begun. After the new year everybody is going to start seeing some progress and I have a feeling it's going to go very quickly. Councilwoman Lovisolo and I actually picked out new colors for the window. We had a vendor switch for the window and we had a better variety and we are very pleased with it. I had another marriage this week. Congratulations to Andrew and Audrianna DiPietro. It was lovely at borough hall. We are working hard to get the re-org underway. Thank you, Linda, for all your work with that.

Something that we're going to hear a lot of lately, we're embarking on a mural project so our downtown mural is a very important piece of our history and it's an important piece of our downtown. I've been working behind the scenes until we were ready to exploit it if you will. So it's a beautiful collaboration of art, community and history. We're going to be now forming committees, setting up an LLC and making it official and we're going to have to start fundraising. It's going to be a really beautiful project. I think the high school and both grammar schools are both onboard. All the art teachers already met and they are very excited. That's the community and education piece to it. I think it's going to be something great that we can all really get behind. I put something in the newsletter reaching out for volunteers. Our first volunteer I'll need someone for fundraising because we need start up money. It's not going to be inexpensive, but it's going to be completely different like something you have not seen before. The man who is leading it is an Allendale resident. His name is Simon Rigg and he's a sculpture. He's also president of the New York Sculpture's Guild. It's going to be our historic pieces of whatever we want put on there. It's going to be in clay and three dimensional. There will be PowerPoint Presentations, etcetera on it.

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There's two letters I'd like to read to everybody. One is from the Morgan family and it's to Mayor Wilczynski, Councilmembers Homan, Lovisolo, O'Connell, O'Toole, Yaccarino and Daloisio.

“We would like to thank everyone for your kindness and sympathy during this difficult time. The flowers and plant were so beautiful. Thank you again. We truly appreciate you and your thoughtfulness. We all love this community so much and it shows how wonderful it truly is during a difficult time with all the love and support. Love Linda, LJ, Lauren and Lucas.”

As you know, Larry Morgan was a fireman for 35 or so. We send our condolences again to the family.

I have another letter from Vice Principal and Athletic Director Koth. He was thanking the borough for the willingness to help with field space during the fall when they were doing their renovation and it was one of their most successful seasons that they've had in a long time and much of that he said was due to part of the assistance from the borough. He said in a time of reflection, he's just very grateful to have a positive relationship with the town and he really appreciates the support and leadership from everybody at the borough. So I felt that's very nice. He looks forward to working with us going forward. A lot of us on the dais here went to high school there as well as our kids, so it's really nice to have a relationship with the high school.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER: Mayor Wilczynski opened the floor to the public on any matter and asked them to come up and state their name and address for the record. She reminded them there is a three-minute time limit.

No one from the public came forward.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

Councilman Daloisio wanted to add, a few months ago I mentioned that the Holiday Observers had taken time to do some renovations of the grand stand as we use the grand stand for our storage area. I want to thank Vico Sanchez who spear-headed it and one of the volunteers of the Holiday Observers, we rebuilt all the stairs, all the seats, both sets of stairs and walks leading up because they were dangerous. The only thing left is we're going to paint it back to the same colors, but it is structurally sound. We did change one of the structural beams inside to make it safer. Mayor Wilczynski said we have to send a thank you letter out.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

MAYOR REFLECTS ON 2023:

This is my first year as mayor even though I've been on the council for many years. It's definitely different being mayor. I just want to thank everybody on the team and at borough hall for all of their support this first year. It's been an honor to be a mayor to this town and I really do enjoy it.

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There's been a lot of changes and I know with change comes discomfort and uncertainty, but everybody has really stepped up and I really truly appreciate it. Everybody plays an important part in the borough to make the borough run smoothly.

For the council, I completely rely on you all. I lean into you and I value your advice. While we all have committees and there's a process, you know I cross-pollinate when necessary and I call you up and you guys are always there. I know sometimes I call at five or six in the morning and, I promise, I will try to do better with that, but you're all gracious, hard-working and you're all very cognizant that we have a job to do and what our purpose is and our purpose is to serve the residents of Allendale and make it a better place to live. I appreciate all your input, feedback and your challenges. I don't always have all the answers and I don't always want to be yes to death, so we work together as a team. When we're working as a team that's when we're working our best. I thank you so much.

Our leadership team, our CFO/Borough Administrator, Alison Altano, I really appreciate your thoughtfulness and your willingness to figure things out and make things work. As CFO you have already made great changes, like accepting credit cards for the first time, which we were trying to do for so long. I feel very, very confident that our finances are in good hands with you. As borough administrator, you stepped into the role seamlessly. You care about people, all the people and all the departments in this borough. You're eager to get to know them better and you do that because you want to support them better in their role. I'm very pleased how you took over creating a new space to make it a better place for the employees. I also feel that we're very aligned in streamlining processes and making things better for the employees as well as residents.

To our Municipal Clerk, Linda Cervino, you jumped in full speed with your role. There was a lot of new stuff to learn and a lot of new staff in the borough when you came onboard. Things were done much differently in the prior place than they were done here. You had to learn almost a whole new role and adjust and figure out new ways of doing things. You always accepted a challenge and you never complained about it no matter what was handed to you. Your gift is that your willingness to grow and learn new things. It says a lot when you're eager to learn more about other work in the borough like GovPilot, for example, which is not necessarily your role, so you can be integrated more with the department. Your good nature and kindness and always willingness to help out everybody is so much appreciated.

Of course, there is an excellent support staff behind all this. Gina Wittmaack, our Tax Collector and Carol Savoy, our payroll extraordinaire, among other things. Kim Olivieri and Amanda Richards who do a super job in the clerk's admin department and, of course, John Gil. John, you are a delight. John is our Director of Communications. You are so reliable and you get everything done and you're also very talented. No matter what I ask you to do and what ridiculous timeline I give, somehow you always make it happen and you're always so happy. You work well with everybody and you really never complain about a thing. We really all need to learn from that somehow. You're a really important part of this team and I look forward to working with you in the future.

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Our building department, Anthony Hackett, who is not here, works great with our residents. He is super knowledgeable about our code and he really gets Allendale. He's excellent at his job, he has high integrity and he always wants to do the right thing by Allendale. He works great with our borough engineer, Michael Vreeland, who is also a super employee who has been with the borough for so long. He's super at his job and works well with all the staff and residents. They are such a great team together. The support staff, Michael Limatola, property maintenance and Linda Garafolo, who works as our Land Use Board Administrator, are also valued employees of the municipality.

Andy Agugliaro, DPW Superintendent, we are so happy to have you on our team. I think the term baptism by fire was your first day. It was one of the worst weather events that we actually ever had in years with flooding and road closure. You did not miss a beat. You hit the ground running. Your willingness to go for it and embrace Allendale from the start is so appreciated. We interviewed about a dozen people for this job and as you left we knew that you were a good fit for the Allendale family. That was very important for us.

Police Chief Michael Dillon, I so appreciate your leadership during all the changes and challenges. A true character of somebody is having navigate in times of stress and you have made it through. I appreciate you as a sounding board and your openness to new ideas. There have already been so many positive changes like our first coffee with a cop and the Mayor and Council, which shows that we're all one team and we're all working together to make Allendale a better place and, in your case, a safer place, and we haven't had that ever in the past. You have a new and very young team, so I look forward to watching them grow and get integrated into the community and your leadership with them going forward.

Our Borough Attorney, Ray Wiss, it's so important to me to know that our legal department is competent and reliable. You are always gracious with all the questions that we have even when we push back. You cover so many municipalities and I know we're a lot smaller than most, but you manage to make us feel like we are the only ones in your universe. Though I have to say, we have had a lot to challenge with you lately, you are also very generous with what we call our Ray time and we value you and your expertise. I always feel that you have my back and the backs of all of us on the council. You are very hilarious and witty and you definitely live life to the fullest. Thank you very much.

PRESENTATIONS: Ron Kistner, Director of Operations/Administrative Officer

Mayor Wilczynski stated, I was on the hiring team for Ron almost about a decade ago with Mayor Emeritus Liz White. We informally met him at Bergen County headquarters as head of parks, and we were there with the open space committee. We were there asking for money for the Fell House, if you remember. When we had you in for the interview, we knew that you were the guy. We called up a few references to do our due diligence and every single one of them said I don't know how the guy does it, but the guy just never sleeps. I don't know if you remember this, but you were actually having second thoughts. Not that you necessarily didn't want the job, but you were really concerned about leaving the people behind there.

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I just remember Liz and I going back and forth with a million conversations just trying to figure out how to lure you in. You were definitely perfect for the job. At the time, I was head of the facilities, parks and recreation and I remember thinking how lucky I was to have a parks guy and a sports guy here working for us. You worked your butt off for Allendale and you haven't stopped. You work tirelessly and tirelessly for this town day in, day out, Saturdays and Sundays; you're always working. You're finally named, "Ron, I got a guy" and you do have a guy and many of them. You've used all your contacts and your expertise and your pull to get the best work and the best deals for Allendale and for that, we are so appreciative.

You give everything in all you do, but also outside of work. You came in on opening days of Crestwood in the beginning to flip burgers, to playing Santa at the Holiday Walk and so much more in between. You didn't have to do that and most people would not have done that, but you have. In Hasbrouck Heights you've coached football. But, most of all, underneath the Jersey City toughness, you have a kind heart. The way you cared for Julia all these years and your friend, Bob, including his family when he went through his battle with cancer and all the miles and miles you walked to raise money for cancer. These are the traits, Ron, that are most important. So, you always said Allendale is your second home and tonight, we want to present to you with a key to the town so that you know you're always welcomed here in Allendale and you will be missed. You can come back whenever you want.

With that, we would like to present you with a plaque with a key to the town. It states, "Presented to Ronald F. Kistner, Administrative Officer, Director of Operations, in recognition of his hard work service and dedication to the Borough of Allendale, December 21, 2023."

Councilman O'Connell stated, Ron, you're leaving Allendale better than when you came here. Pat yourself on the back. Have fun with the grandchildren and everything else. I truly wish you the best.

Councilwoman Homan stated that Hasbrouck Heights certainly has been very lucky to have you all your years on council and now for them to have the opportunity to have you take over as mayor is amazing. Certainly, we have been so fortunate as both a team of people having you as part of our team at Allendale as a place where I've lived and all of us have had our families. Thank you so much for the energy and the care that you have put forth during your time here. We came on together at the same time and it really has been helpful to me from thinking about the water and how you already had it figure out before I did that, we were going to sell that water. It's one of those things where it sparks somebody with an idea that the way that we did it as a team backing up and saying, okay, well, maybe it is something we can consider. So, I was definitely challenging to work with and I appreciate the patience that you put forward in order to have our whole team and our town commit to that, and I think we're in a much better place from that specific agenda item. I thank you so much. I do love the fact that your energy to love people and really put the caring part first is so important. Certainly, your family is very fortunate and I hope they get a little bit more time with you and that it's not just all mayor activities. Best wishes to you always. Thank you.

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Councilwoman Lovisolo stated, Ron, it has truly been wonderful working with you these past few years, first, on Land Use Board and then when I came onto council. The time that we've spent on committees together, Land Use Committee, Water, Finance and Admin, you have years and years of experience that you always generously shared with all of us and with the Allendale Community and we are forever grateful and we will truly miss you. You will perpetually be our "Ron, I got a guy Kistner" and you will always, always be part of our Allendale family. Thank you for everything, Ron.

Councilman Yaccarino stated, Ron and I we have been so much together and I find it ironic that I'm bidding farewell over a computer with Covid. Ron, my journey through this town, through this borough and through my process here, you've been there every step of the way. There's nothing that I've done in this town where you haven't been there to witness it, be part of it, lend advice, be a helping hand, be a figure there when I needed you to be. When I started here as an intern, I worked for you. We were together every day. We were in the office all day during the week and the amount of things that were thrown our way, the things that we did together, the things that I worked on, the things I didn't want to work on but you still asked me very nicely to do. There was just so much growth that you were there and you were part of and when I needed you to help be there for me and lend advice, you were always there; days, nights, weekends. You were such a figure for me, and not only just for me, but for all of us here and for the town. You would always say to me as long as you can go to bed at night and put your head on the pillow and know that you did the right thing today you know that you're doing a good job. That has always ring true for me through all these years. Even though you're leaving us now, as others have said, you've left the town with the aspect that you've worked in a better place and I know that you'll continue to do that. So, Ron, I appreciate all that you've done for me, all that you've done for us and the town. Really, words cannot express how thankful I am for your time here and our time together. So, this is not the end, and I wish you all the best always.

Councilman O'Toole thanked Ron Kistner and stated that it's been an absolute pleasure to work with you and I appreciate the help that you were always willing to give and the opinions that you've shared, whether they were asked for or not. From the hours that we've spent in this room getting Mayor Bernstein's covid videos put together and to the countless committee meetings that we were a part of, it's been challenging and it's been fun most of the time. We will certainly miss you, but I wish you the very best of luck in all your future endeavors. I hope you can still find a way north sometimes. Remember, you have friends here and the doors are always open.

Chief Michal Dillon stated, Ron, today, I called Andy. I called 501 and your name popped up real quick and then it flopped over to Andy's. So I watched that and I started reminiscing about us and you have a package style where the sky could be falling and the stress is pretty heavy on my shoulders and you would say why don't you stop down to the garage. I go to his office and immediately talked off the ledge. And I have seen actually you and Marie come up here quite frequently on the weekends and just drive through the towns. I think that's so cool because you have stake in this town. You have a dog in a fight and you really want us to succeed. And even when we thought we weren't getting the best from the town through a vendor or some sort of contractor I felt like you really did fight for us. So, as a resident, as an employee and a department head, I wish the best of luck and thank you for your service to our borough. Hasbrouck Heights is very lucky to have you.

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Borough Attorney, Ray Wiss, stated over our years working in Allendale I would get the eight o'clock call from Ron. People talk about your dedication, but if I had to sum up my assessment of your work on behalf of the borough, problem solver. I've had the privilege of working with a lot of towns over the years and, therefore, a lot of administrators. Ron, you have never won the stand on ceremony. It was always how do we get the job done and whether it was I know somebody who can help us, or let's put our heads together and work it out. No problem was too big. I think we saw eye to eye on virtually everything in terms of how do we get that football in the end zone, what's the bottom line. I enjoyed our conversations early morning about sports and concerts and the like, but as it related to business, I would say more than anything else, your gift is that you don't lose the forest for the trees, you do see that end zone and you want to solve the problem. When you can solve a problem with humanity and dignity, that's a big man and that's you.

Councilman Dalosio stated, Ron, I said a couple things about the Land Use Committee and I appreciate it. Only being a councilman for 11 ½ months, I really got to see your work ethic from this side. But, one of the other things I'm involved with is holiday observers and finishing my presidency, and it's pretty stressful with the amount of events that we run, knowing that you were always there and kind of echoing what Ray said, knowing that you were always there. You always said don't worry we got it. I always knew you had it. I didn't have to tell you. You always knew it had to be done and you did it. Allendale Housing, watching you cook hamburgers at our barbeques for our residents, and doing the things you do, the little things that are extra that you do that I don't think a lot of the residents see on top of all the countless hours you put in in your regular job, it's so appreciative. I'm thankful that I got a chance to know you as well as I got to know you, and I know we're going to keep in touch and I know you're going to be fantastic in your new role and I'm going to miss you. I wish you all the best.

COUNCILMAN O'TOOLE REGARDING STANDING COMMITTEES:

With an eye to the future and the desire to streamline for sake of efficiency combined with the sale of the water system and changes to key members of the borough leadership team, it was proposed that we take a look at our committees to see if they were what the borough needs moving forward. At the last meeting, Councilpresident Homan, Councilwoman Lovisolo and I were appointed as what I've been calling the committee committee. So, since the water and sewer committee was, until recently predominantly dealing with the water system, we felt that that committee could be dissolved and the sewer portion could be absorbed into the public works committee. We also felt that we needed to expand the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee to include Information Technologies. So that leaves us with five standing committees, some will remain as they are, some have some changes, but moving forward we are proposing:

Finance, Human Resources, Administration and Information Technologies; Public Safety Committee; Public Works and Public Utility Committee; Facilities, Parks and Recreation Committee; and the Land Use and Construction Code Committee.

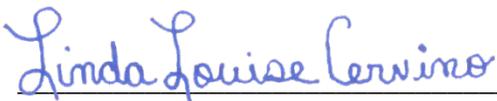
**Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
Combined Work and Regular Session Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Wiss stated that your bylaws provide that the mayor has to appoint a committee to assess any bylaw changes, which the mayor did at the last meeting. The committee then has to report to the full council, which is what you just received. And, rather, uniquely, the resolution that effectuates the change has to be read at two consecutive meetings. Usually, a resolution is acted on at a single meeting, unlike an ordinance, so I think the anticipation is that the recommendation that you just heard will be put in resolution for the re-org meeting that will be the first passage, and the second reading would be your second meeting in January, at which time the new structure would go in affect.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilwoman Homan, with second by Councilman O'Toole, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

01/04/2024

Date Approved

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-262.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisolo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**APPROVAL OF ABC VAULT PARTNERS, LLC VS.
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the taxpayer, ABC Vault Partners, LLC appealed the assessment levied on Block 1808, Lot 2 and Block 1809, Lot 3 for the tax year 2023; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is located at 22 Maple Street and 90 W. Allendale Avenue respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff was represented by an Attorney in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Expert have approved and recommend that the appeal be settled as follows: the 2023 Assessed Value for 22 Maple Street will be reduced from \$1,101,000 to \$500,000, and the 2023 Assessed Value for 90 W. Allendale Avenue will remain unchanged at \$911,100; and

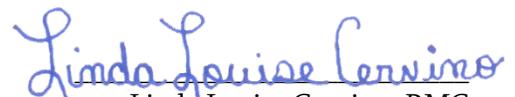
WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds available in the reserve for tax appeals account to satisfy the 2023 tax refund, if any; and

WHEREAS, the assessor is of the opinion that the valuation of the subject property is consistent with true value of the property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that:

The proposed settlement for the tax appeals encaptioned ABC Vault Partners, LLC v. Borough of Allendale as hereinbefore set forth is approved and the Borough Tax Attorney or a member of his firm is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate its terms.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-263.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisolo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**APPROVAL OF MIRANTE, ALEXANDER A. & LISA VS.
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the taxpayers, Alexander A. & Lisa Mirante appealed the assessment levied on Block 1206, Lot 15 for the tax years 2022 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is located at 28 Linda Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff was represented by an Attorney in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Expert have approved and recommend that the appeal be settled as follows:

2022 Assessed Value will be reduced from \$1,085,600 to \$1,035,600
2023 Assessed Value will be reduced from \$1,131,900 to \$1,081,900

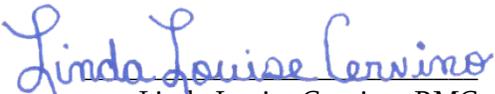
WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds available in the reserve for tax appeals account to satisfy the 2022 and 2023 tax refund, if any; and

WHEREAS, the assessor is of the opinion that the valuation of the subject property is consistent with true value of the property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that:

The proposed settlement for the tax appeals encaptioned Mirante, Alexander A. & Lisa v. Borough of Allendale as hereinbefore set forth is approved and the Borough Tax Attorney or a member of his firm is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate its terms.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-264.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisollo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**APPROVAL OF ELMAN, STEPHEN & AMY VS.
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the taxpayers, Elman, Stephen & Amy appealed the assessment levied on Block 2203, Lot 10 for the tax years 2021, 2022 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is located at 45 Cambridge Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff was represented by an Attorney in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Expert have approved and recommend that the appeal be settled as follows:

- 2021 Assessed Value will be reduced from \$1,019,300 to \$950,000
- 2022 Assessed Value will be remain unchanged at \$1,048,300 to \$1,048,300
- 2023 Assessed Value will be remain unchanged at \$1,116,900 to \$1,116,900

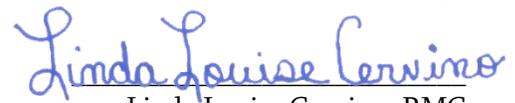
WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds available in the reserve for tax appeals account to satisfy the 2021, 2022 and 2023 tax refund, if any; and

WHEREAS, the assessor is of the opinion that the valuation of the subject property is consistent with true value of the property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that:

The proposed settlement for the tax appeals encaptioned Elman, Stephen & Amy v. Borough of Allendale as hereinbefore set forth is approved and the Borough Tax Attorney or a member of his firm is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate its terms.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-265.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisollo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**AWARD FOR THE ALTERNATE BID AMOUNT FOR THE ALLENDALE COMMUNITY
CENTER PROJECT AWARDED TO DINALLO CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2023, Dinallo Construction Corporation of Wood-Ridge, New Jersey, was deemed to be the lowest qualified, responsible, responsive bidder meeting the bid specifications for the project known as The Allendale Community Center and awarded the contract via Resolution 23-226 in the amount of \$5,150,000.00; and

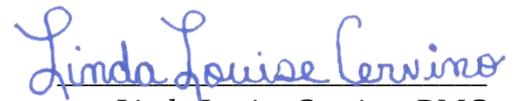
WHEREAS, the alternate amount of the bid is \$124,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the total contract amount to be awarded is \$5,274,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has attached hereto a Certification that adequate funds are duly budgeted to pay for the contract for The Allendale Community Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body that it hereby awards for the alternate portion of the bid to Dinallo Construction Corporation of Wood-Ridge, New Jersey for the Allendale Community Center project, in the amount of \$124,000.00, and the total contract amount to be awarded is \$5,274,000.00, which includes amounts previously awarded in the amount of \$5,150,000.00 on October 12, 2023 by Resolution 23-226.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-266.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisolo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

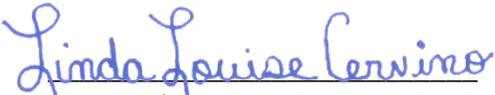
BUDGET TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, Budget Transfers are permitted during the last two months of the current year and the first three months of the following year;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor & Council of the Borough of Allendale that the following transfers be made between the following 2023 Budget Appropriations:

DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FROM	TO
CURRENT FUND			
Contingent	3-01-35-470-230	\$1,200	
Plumbing Subcode S&W	3-01-22-197-012		\$200
Health Benefit Waiver	3-01-23-221-000		\$1,000
Total Transfers		\$1,200	\$1,200

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


 Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
 Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-267.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisollo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**AWARD CONTRACT FOR AS NEEDED SNOW PLOWING & REMOVAL SERVICES –
BOROUGH ROADWAYS JANUARY 2024, FEBRUARY 2024, MARCH 2024, NOVEMBER 2024
AND DECEMBER 2024 – CONQUEST CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on December 13, 2023 for the project known as “As Needed Snow Plowing & Removal Services – Borough Roadways, January, February, March, November and December of 2024”; and

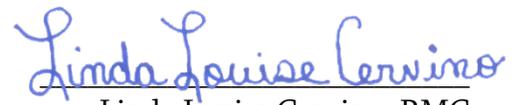
WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received; and

WHEREAS, the bid documents have been reviewed and it is determined that the bid of Conquest Construction, Inc. is in compliance as the lowest responsive bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has attached hereto a Certification that adequate funds are or will be, duly budgeted to pay for the contract for the above project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body that it hereby does award a contract for “As Needed Snow Plowing & Removal Services – Borough Roadways, January 2024, February 2024, March 2024, November 2024 and December 2024” to Conquest Construction, LLC, located at 450 S. River Street, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 in the amount of \$155,000.00.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-268.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisollo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent
Agenda

**AWARD CONTRACT FOR ALLENDALE FIREHOUSE BATHROOM RENOVATION – ADA
BATHROOM PROJECT – HM COMPANY, LLC**

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on December 13, 2023 for the project known as Allendale Firehouse Bathroom Renovation – ADA Bathroom Project; and

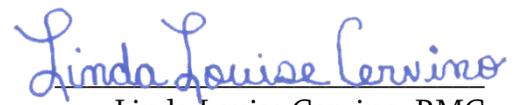
WHEREAS, nine (9) bids were received; and

WHEREAS, the bid documents have been reviewed and it is determined that the bid of HM Company, LLC, located at 3 Orlando Drive, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004, is in compliance as the lowest responsive bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has attached hereto a Certification that adequate funds are or will be, duly budgeted to pay for the contract for the above project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body that it hereby does award a contract for Allendale Firehouse Bathroom Renovation – ADA Bathroom Project to HM Company, LLC, located at 3 Orlando Drive, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004 in the amount of \$95,000.00.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION
BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

DATE: 12/21/2023

RESOLUTION# 23-269.R

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Homan						✓
Lovisolo	✓		✓			
O'Connell			✓			
O'Toole		✓	✓			
Yaccarino			✓			
Daloisio			✓			
Mayor Wilczynski	-----	-----				

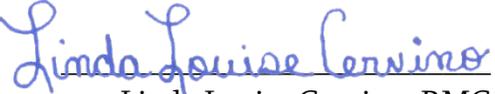
- Carried
- Defeated
- Tabled
- Approved on Consent Agenda

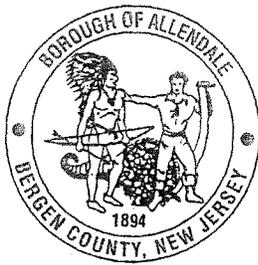
APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 21, 2023 LIST OF BILLS

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby approves the Bill List dated December 21, 2023 in the amounts of:

Bill List Numbers	DECEMBER 21, 2023
Current Fund	\$ 1,737,875.65
Payroll Account	207,182.77
General Capital	16,837.39
Animal Fund	
Grant Fund	
COAH/Housing Trust	
Improvement & Beautification	
Unemployment Fund	
Trust Fund	1,727.00
Water Operating	28,147.26
Water Capital	
<hr/>	
Total	\$ 1,991,770.07

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on December 21, 2023.


 Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
 Municipal Clerk



THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE

N E W J E R S E Y

500 WEST CRESCENT AVENUE, ALLENDALE, NJ 07401

WWW.ALLENDALENJ.GOV

OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR
OFFICE OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

201-818-4400 EXT 205

I, Alison Altano, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Allendale, having reviewed the bill list for the Borough, do hereby certify that funds are available in the accounts so designated.

Certified 12/19/23

Alison Altano
Alison Altano
Chief Financial Officer

BILL LIST For DECEMBER 21, 2023

CURRENT FUND **\$ 960.00**

Manual Check - Transfer 12/14/23
Savini's Restaurant - Check# 13748 \$ 960.00

PAYROLL ACCOUNT **\$ 207,182.77**

Borough of Allendale Payroll Fund, Bank Transfer 12/13/2023 **\$ 207,182.77**

Salaries and Wages \$ 196,326.91
FICA \$ 10,855.86
DCRP

TOTAL **\$ 208,142.77**