MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026
Council Chambers 7:30pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Criscuolo called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Council President Criscuolo asked all in attendance to join him in a Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

Council President Criscuolo read the Sunshine Statement into the record, as follows:

"In accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Law, notification of this meeting has been sent to all officially appointed Township newspapers and notice is posted at the Municipal Office and on the Township website."

ROLL CALL

Councilman Ziccarelli, Councilman Tolomeo, Councilman Ben-Yiahy, Council Vice President Sieg and Council President Criscuolo were present.

Also present: Mayor Mark Bromberg, Business Administrator/CFO Gennaro Rotella, Township Attorney Silvana Raso, Township Engineer Chris Statile, Township Clerk Karen Campanelli and Judge Michael Garrett.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bromberg reported on the assessment; the process is going well, and they have about a third of the Town completed. He added that most people are allowing the inspector in which is to the residents advantage and provides a more accurate assessment.

Council Comments

Councilman Ziccarelli had no comments this evening.

Councilman Tolomeo commented that he loves having the Police Department here and welcomed the new officers. He added that River Vale has the best Police Department in the Pascack Valley.

Councilman Ben-Yishay also loves seeing the Police Department here this evening and welcomed the families of Officers Scalisi and Toback.

Council Vice President Sieg commented that she attended the Township's 9-11 ceremony on Friday, and she proudly reported that the Veteran's Memorial looked pristine and beautiful. She added that the Pena family could not attend but would have been very pleased. Councilwoman Sieg thanked Rich Campanelli and the DPW for making the Veteran's Memorial look so beautiful

She next commented that the new Police Officers will also have another family, your officers in blue. Council Vice President Sieg added that they will never work with a more professional group.

Council President Criscuolo echoed the comments of his fellow Council members comments. He thanked the new officers and their families. Council President Criscuolo understands the sacrifices the families make when the officers are working and unavailable while in the line of duty. He added that Councilman Ben-Yishay noted we have a resolution on the agenda this evening endorsing New Jersey State Assembly Resolution 149 supporting law enforcement officers. Council President Criscuolo stated that this is an important initiative, and he hopes it's obvious and clear to all of our officers they have their absolute support always.

Swear in New Police Officers **Brandon Scalisi and Dylan Toback**

Mayor Bromberg read Brandon Scalisi's bio into the record:

Brandon Scalisi was born in New Rochelle, New York, and raised in New City, New York. Officer Scalisi attended Clarkstown North High School, where he was a member of his High School Baseball team for all four years. He went on to continue his baseball career at Caldwell University in Essex County, New Jersey. Brandon graduated from the Bergen County Police Academy in June of 2026. Prior to his hiring by the River Vale Police Department, Brandon graduated Caldwell University in May of 2025 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Family:
Father - Frank Scalisi (pinning badge)
Mother - Diane Scalisi (holding bible)
Sister - Briana Scalisi

Judge Garrett swore in Brandon Scalisi as a Police Officer with the River Vale Police Department.

Next, the Mayor read Dylan Toback's bio into the record:

Dylan Toback was born and raised in New Jersey. Officer Toback attended Pequannock Township high school where he was a member of the wrestling and lacrosse programs. Dylan went on to continue his academic and wrestling career at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, where he graduated with an associate's degree of Applied Science in Electrical Technology. Dylan graduated from the Bergen County Police Academy in June of 2026. Prior to his career in Law Enforcement Dylan worked as an electrical field service technician for over two years before being hired by River Vale Police Department in the fall of 2025.

Family:
Mother- Judi Toback (holding bible)
Father- Mark Toback (pinning badge)
Brother- Zachary Toback
Sister- Alexandra Faucher

Judge Garrett swore in Dylan Toback as a Police Officer with the River Vale Police Department.

Council President Cricuolo thanked everyone and said they were taking a two-minute recess.

Business Administrator Report

Mr. Rotella reported that he recently had the pleasure of meeting with the Hills Valley Coalition. He explained that they work with the Municipal Alliance Organization who represent River Vale, Hillsdale, Montvale and Woodcliff Lake schools. They provide programming on various issues for students. Mr. Rotella added that they have not presented to the Council in a while and he requested they attend a meeting regarding the programs they offer. He anticipates them presenting at a meeting in November to reintroduce themselves.

Township Engineer Report

Mr. Statile welcomed Councilman Ziccarelli. He first reported on the 2026 Road Program, all the streets have been milled and paved. He explained the contractor still has to pave the Farmers Market parking lot, and two streets that were added to the program Mark Lane and Florence Road.

He next gave an update on the 35-unit Townhouse development. He explained that M&M Developers have just received notice that their DCA grant application is in the final stages of approval. Mr. Statile added that it might be another three weeks and they can then apply for construction permits. Mr. Rotella added that the final sale of the property should be before that Council shortly.

Mr. Statile reported on the new DPW Storage building. He is working with a vendor and will then go out to bid for the building. The building will have heat and be insulated. He announced that the Tennis Courts Reconstruction project should be completed by the end of the week.

He reported that the County is making drainage improvements on Westwood Avenue. Mr. Statile is working on a $750,000 interlocal agreement with the County, and the town will do the design work. And after the drainage work is complete in 2027 the County will mill and resurface Westwood Avenue.

Councilwoman Sieg asked if the paving was done on Alpine Circle from the PSE&G work. Mr. Statile doesn't believe the paving has been done. She also reported that the Giordano Park is in bad shape

and something needs to be done. Councilwoman Sieg thinks it's great we do all the new projects, but we need to upkeep the older projects. Mr. Statile responded that he would look into an Open Space Grant to fund the improvements.

Council President Criscuolo questioned the status of the turf field. Mr. Rotella responded that the project will start in November after football season. Councilwoman Sieg asked how many extra years they got from the turf field. Mr. Rotella responded that they've had the field for (13) years. Mayor Bromberg noted that the reason they got the extra years out of the field was due to the diligence of the DPW maintaining the field.

1st Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay second by Councilwoman Sieg to open the meeting to the public.
All in Favor: Aye

There being no questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay second by Councilman Tolomeo to close the hearing of the public.
All in Favor: Aye

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Tolomeo second by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolutions #2026-186 through Resolution #2026-196 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2026-186

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2026, COUNCIL MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the minutes of the August 10, 2026, Council meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2026-187

R E S O L U T I O N

REFUND 3RD QUARTER PROPERTY TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, tax overpayments were received for the 3rd quarter of 2026, and the property owners have requested a refund of said overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue municipal checks payable as follows:

Block 1201, Lot 6.03
Fairways at Edgewood
River Vale, NJ
Refund Amount:
$ 62,984.60
Payable to:
Toll NJ 1 LLC
1140 Virginia Drive
Fort Washington, PA 19034

Block 1201, Lot 6.03, C2303
23 Royal Birkdale Ct.
River Vale, NJ
Refund Amount:
$ 5,726.00
Payable to:
Mona Zalatan
23 Royal Birkdale Ct.
River Vale, NJ 07675

Block 1507, Lot 8
287 Rivervale Rd.
River Vale, NJ
Refund Amount:
$ 4,051.85
Payable to:
William Cruz
287 Rivervale Rd.
River Vale, NJ 07675

Block 1802.01, Lot 8
280 River Drive
River Vale, NJ
Refund Amount:
$ 4,613.46
Payable to:
Edith A. Cook
1133 McDaniels Street
Sun City Center, FL 33573

Block 2110, Lot 16.01
132 Terbell Parkway
River Vale, NJ
Refund Amount:
$ 4,497.19
Payable to:
Conal Duffy
132 Terbell Parkway
River Vale, NJ 07675

Resolution #2026-188

RESOLUTION

(Escrow Balance Refunds)

WHEREAS, the following property owners had posted escrow deposits for construction projects; and,

WHEREAS, the projects are complete, the Township Engineer has performed all the necessary inspections, and Certificates of Occupancy have been issued; and,

WHEREAS, the property owners are requesting a refund of the remaining escrow balances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the remaining Escrow Deposits and any accrued interest be released.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Treasurer is hereby directed to issue municipal checks as follows:

S-13-56-858-681 - GENDRON-B 404/L 12 – 270 ALPINE CIRCLE - $492.50

S-13-56-858-668 - CILANO - B 1805/L 1 – 276 RIVER DRIVE – $225.00

S-13-56-858-694 - BURNETT/FANTAUZZI - B 1803/L 5 – 604 FLORENCE - $77.50

S-13-56-858-716 - NOVIELLI - B 2205/L 26 – 196 BERGEN PLACE - $295.00

S-13-56-858-734 - PRUSINOWSKI-B 101/L 22 – 705 ORANGE COURT – $217.50

S-13-56-858-737 - McCULLOGH/DUNN - B810/L 14 – 652 GREENWAY - $210.00

S-13-56-858-748 - REDUCE - B 1510/L 22.02 – 106 CHOI COURT - $2026.25

S-13-56-858-756 - SCHIMPF - B 902/L 19 – 615 DALE COURT WEST - $195.00

S-13-56-858-759 - CONBOY - B 406/L 3 – 559 STELLMAN DRIVE - $116.25

S-13-56-858-760 - ASGAR - B 304/L 36 – 842 LORETTA - $87.50

P-13-56-858-346 - FERRARA. J – B601/L 7 – 7 RIVERVALE RD - $652.85

Resolution #2026-189

RESOLUTION

(Escrow Refund)

WHEREAS, the owner of 575 Piermont Avenue had posted an escrow deposit for a subdivision application; and,

WHEREAS, the project is complete, and the Township Engineer has performed all the necessary inspections; and,

WHEREAS, the property owner is requesting a refund of the remaining escrow balances from the following accounts:

- 575 Piermont Ave. – S-13-56-858-530 – B1301 L12.01 – Balance $295.00
- 559 Piermont Ave. – S-13-56-858-433 – B1301 L46 – Balance $140.50
- Subdivision B1301 L11 and 12.01 – Balance $323.73

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the remaining Escrow Deposit and any accrued interest be released.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Treasurer is hereby directed to issue a municipal check as follows:

Payable to:

John Fornazor

575 Piermont Avenue

River Vale, NJ 07675

Total Refund: $759.23

Resolution #2026-190

RESOLUTION AWARDING THE BID FOR SNOW PLOWING SERVICE FOR RIVER VALE

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2026, the Township received bids for the provision of Snow Plowing Service for the Township of River Vale; and

WHEREAS, the bid received from Zuccaro Inc., 64 Commerce Street, Garfield, New Jersey has been reviewed and approved and is hereby accepted as the lowest responsible bidder at the price of

Base Bid - First Snow Season

Item	Price - Hourly Rate
Base Bid - First Snow Season (October 1, 2026 – April 30, 2028)	$ 195.00 per hour per truck

Base Bid– Second Snow Season if Council extends Contract*

Item	Price - Hourly Rate
Base Bid - Second Snow Season (October 1, 2028 – April 30, 2030)	$ 210.00 per hour per truck

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in an amount not to exceed $ 195.00 per hour/per truck in the Current Fund Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bid of Zuccaro Inc. is accepted as the lowest responsible bidder. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Contract on behalf of the Township of River Vale for Snow Plowing Service for the Township of River Vale as described in the Bid Specifications.

Resolution #2026-191

RESOLUTION AWARDING THE BID FOR SNOW PLOWING SERVICE FOR BOROUGH OF MONTVALE

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2026, the Township received bids for the provision of Snow Plowing Service for the Borough of Montvale; and

WHEREAS, the bid received from Zuccaro Inc., 64 Commerce Street, Garfield, New Jersey has been reviewed and approved and is hereby accepted as the lowest responsible bidder at the price of

Item	Price - Hourly Rate/Per Truck
Base Bid **First Snow Season** (October 1, 2026 – April 30, 2028)	$ 195.00 **(6) Class 7** Per Hour/Per Truck as referenced in Section 2:2.3 EQUIPMENT $ 290.00 Per Hour/Per Truck as referenced in Section 2:2.3 EQUIPMENT

Option 1 Sidewalk Crew (First Snow Season)

$ 250.00 Per Hour (3) Laborers

Item	Price - Hourly Rate/Per Truck
Base Bid **Second Snow Season** (October 1, 2028 – April 30, 2030) **If Council Extends Contract***	$ 212.50 **(6) Class 7** Per Hour/Per Truck as referenced in Section 2:2.3 EQUIPMENT $ 315.00 Per Hour/Per Truck as referenced in Section 2:2.3 EQUIPMENT

Option 1 Sidewalk Crew (2nd Snow Season) If Council Extends Contract*

$ 280.00 Per Hour (3) Laborers

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in an amount not to exceed $ 195.00 per hour/per truck Class 7 rate and $ 290.00 per hour/per truck in the Current Fund Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bid of Zuccaro Inc. is accepted as the lowest responsible bidder. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Contract on behalf of the Township of River Vale for Snow Plowing Service for the Borough of Montvale as described in the Bid Specifications.

Resolution #2026-192

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARDING A CONTRACT

LEAF DISPOSAL FACILITY 2026-2027

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council recognize the Township's need for a facility to dispose of leaves collected each year; and

WHEREAS, as per *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(s)*, recycling contracts are not subject to public bidding requirements; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Township award a contract to Organic Recycling, Inc., 121 Route 303, Orangeburg, New York at the following price for leaves that are delivered to their facility pursuant to their proposal:

$15.00 per cubic yard for compacted leaves
$11.50 per cubic yard for loose leaves

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the Current Operating Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Superintendent of Public Works is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Organic Recycling Inc., for the disposal of leaves for the term of October 2026 through February 2027.

Resolution #2026-193

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE PROVISION OF VEHICLE MECHANICAL AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES BY THE RIVER VALE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (2026-2027)

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40A8A-1 et. seq., authorizes public entities to enter into contracts with each other to subcontract any services which the parties to an agreement are empowered to render within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS the RVBOE wishes to enter into a shared services agreement with the Township whereby the mechanics of the River Vale Department of Public Works would perform maintenance repairs to vehicles owned and/or operated by the RVBOE; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is beneficial to both the Township and the RVBOE to share the services of the Department of Public Works' mechanics; and,

WHEREAS, this agreement has been reviewed by the Township Attorney.

NOW, THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Interlocal Services Agreement with the River Vale Board of Education for the provision of mechanical and maintenance services by the River Vale Department of Public Works.

Resolution #2026-194

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD (UNEXPIRED TERM)

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2026, John Donovan resigned from the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donovan was also appointed as the Council Representative to the Joint Planning Board for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFOE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that Councilman Joe Ziccarelli is hereby appointed as the Council Representative to the Joint Planning Board filling an unexpired term ending December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that a Certified Copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Joint Planning Board.

Resolution #2026-195

Payment of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to pay the following claims:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 429,861.45
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 29,000.00
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 65,621.18
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:	$ 6,500.00
HOUSING TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
SNOW REMOVAL TRUST claims in the amount of:	$ 14,195.70
ANIMAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 11.40
RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 599.00
PRIVATE DUTY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
STATE & FEDERAL GRANT claims in the amount of:	$ 7,054.20
OPEN SPACE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 598,217.86
UTILITY CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
ACCUMULATED ABSENCE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
PROJECT/BUILDERS ESCROW ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 6,436.50
PLANNING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 385.00
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 1,082.50
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 390.00

TOTAL CLAIMS TO BE PAID $ 1,159,354.79

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the following claims have been paid by the Business Administrator prior to the Bills List Resolution in the following amounts:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 7,582,066.40
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of	$ 209,312.61
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:	
HOUSING TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
STATE & FEDERAL GRANT claims in the amount of:	
PAYROLL AGENCY ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 1,947.48
RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 186,488.26
OPEN SPACE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
ACCUMULATED ABSENSES ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
GOLF COURSE UTILITY CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 8,553.05
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 17,997.50
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST claims in the amount of:	
TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	$ 163,733.91
PLANNING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	
PERFORMANCE BOND claims in the amount of:	
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID	**$ 8,170,099.21**
TOTAL BILLS LIST RESOLUTION	**$ 9,329,454.00**

MANUAL DISBURSEMENTS BILLS LIST SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

08/15/2026 Transfer Payroll	$ 389,086.29
08/28/2026 Transfer Payroll	$ 389,174.68
09/15/2026 Transfer Payroll	$ 410,560.16
TOTAL STATUTORY DISTRIBUTIONS	**$ 1,188,821.13**

Resolution #2026-196

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG SUPPORT FOR ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND ENDORSING NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 149

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers across the State of New Jersey and within the Township of River Vale dedicate their lives to protecting the public, preserving the peace, and upholding the law; and

WHEREAS, these brave men and women routinely face unpredictable and dangerous situations in the line of duty, putting their personal safety at risk to ensure the security of our neighborhoods, schools, and business districts; and

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale recognizes that a safe community is the foundation of local prosperity and quality of life, a reality made possible through the professionalism, vigilance, and compassion of our law enforcement professionals; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Assembly Resolution No. l49 (AR149) formally declares support for all law enforcement officers throughout the State and explicitly urges each county and municipality to issue similar expressions of solidarity and support; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of River Vale strongly concur with the sentiments of AR149 and believe it is vital to publicly reaffirm their commitment to the law enforcement personnel who serve with honor and distinction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of River Vale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that it hereby voices its full and unwavering support for all law enforcement officers locally and statewide, thanking them for their dedicated public service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of River Vale formally endorses New Jersey Assembly Resolution No. 149 and joins the call to action for all local governing bodies to recognize the invaluable contributions of their police departments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Sponsors of AR149, the legislative representatives of New Jersey's 39th Legislative District, all Municipal Clerks in New Jersey, the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the River Vale Police Department.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ziccarelli, Councilman Tolomeo, Councilman Ben-Yishay, Council Vice President Sieg and Council President Criscuolo voted yes.

Ordinances for 1st Reading

ORDINANCE #482-2026

Motion to Introduce: Councilman Tolomeo

Second: Councilman Ben-Yishay

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 214 OF THE CODE ENTITLED "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS" ESTABLISHING UNIFORM PROCEDURES TO REIMBURSE RESIDENTS FOR DAMAGE TO MAILBOXES DUE TO SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that Chapter 214 of the Township Code is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE V

Mailbox Damage Reimbursement

§ 214-51 Intent; policy**.**

A.

It is the intent of this article to establish uniform procedures to reimburse residents for damage to mailboxes due to snow removal operations. The Township's primary obligation is to ensure that its roadways are as clear as possible of snow or ice. It is also understood that most mailboxes are located within the public right-of-way, and, therefore, while fulfilling the primary objective, mailboxes may

be unintentionally and unavoidably damaged. This policy assumes there is a shared responsibility between the Township and the homeowner when mailboxes located in the public right-of-way are damaged during snow removal operations.

B.

While there is no legal requirement that the Township do so, it is the policy of the Township of River Vale to reimburse residents up to $75 for eligible damage to mailboxes caused by direct plow contact on the part of the Department of Public Works. Nothing in this article shall be construed to entitle any resident to reimbursement for damage caused by the weight or placement of thrown snow, nor shall this article be construed to entitle any resident to reimbursement prior to an investigation and determination by the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works that the claimed damage is eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this article.

C.

Resident Responsibility. Snowplow operators make every effort to remove snow as close to the curb line as practical and to provide access to mailboxes for the Postal Service. However, it is not possible to provide perfect conditions and minimize the damage to mailboxes with the size of equipment the Township operates. Therefore, the final cleaning adjacent to mailboxes is the responsibility of each resident.

D.

Landscaping; hardscape. Property owners should assume all risk of damage for landscaping/hardscape, including nursey and inanimate materials that are installed or encroach on the Township right-of-way. The Township assumes no responsibility for damage incurred to these nonpermitted elements as a result of snow plowing and ice control activities with the exception that lawns that are scraped or gouged by Township equipment will be repaired by top dressing and seeding the following spring. In addition, inanimate materials such as boulders, timbers, etc., are a hazard and can cause damage to plow equipment

§ 214-52 Eligibility**.**

The reimbursement provisions of this article shall only apply to those residents who satisfy the following criteria:

A.

The mailbox is securely fastened to a sturdy post which is sufficiently anchored in the ground to resist the impact of plowed snows.

B.

The damaged mailbox and/or post must meet the requirements of the U.S. Postal Service, as well as all other applicable regulations in regard to construction and location. Mailboxes that do not meet the requirements of the U.S. Postal Service and/or any other applicable regulations are not eligible for reimbursement.

C.

The damage must have been caused by direct contact with Township plows or snow removal equipment. The Township will not provide reimbursement for damage to mailboxes or posts caused solely by snow thrown from Township plows or snow removal equipment.

D.

The resident must notify the Township within fourteen (14) days of the date the damage occurred. Damage reported outside of this time frame will not be eligible for reimbursement.

E.

The Mailbox and Post Damage Notification Form must be completed in its entirety, signed by the resident and subsequently approved by the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works.

§ 214-53 Procedure; investigation.

A.

Within the time period described above, a resident making a claim for reimbursement pursuant to this article shall complete a Mailbox and Post Damage Notification Form, available at the Superintendent of Department of Public Works office.

B.

After submission of the completed form, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works shall investigate the alleged damage to determine if the damage was caused by the plow blade or vehicle itself, rather than thrown snow. A written response on the findings of the investigation will be mailed with a check, if appropriate.

C.

If it is determined the mailbox was damaged by the plow blade or vehicle, the resident will be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed $75 for a new mailbox. If it is determined that the damage was not caused by the plow blade or vehicle, no reimbursement will be given. All actual repairs and/or replacements shall be the responsibility of the resident.

D.

Nothing in this section prohibits a resident from foregoing the reimbursement and filing a tort claim under Title 59 of New Jersey Statutes Annotated.

§ 214-54 Form to be utilized**.**

All residents shall utilize the Mailbox and Post Damage Notification Form, available at the office of the Superintendent of Public Works office.

This Ordinance shall take effect following adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ziccarelli, Councilman Tolomeo, Councilman Ben-Yishay, Council Vice President Sieg and Council President Criscuolo voted yes.

Ordinance for 2nd Reading and Public Hearing

ORDINANCE #481-2026

Motion to Adopt: Councilwoman Sieg

Second: Councilman Tolomeo

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay second by Councilwoman Sieg to open the Public hearing on Ordinance #481-2026.

There being no questions of comments from the public. Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay and second by Councilwoman Sieg to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance #481-2026.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 142 OF THE CODE ENTITLED "LAND USE" ARTICLE LVII "DEFINITIONS'

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that Chapter 214 of the Township Code is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE LVII

Definitions

§ 142-262. Word usage; terms defined.

B. Definitions. For the purpose of this Part 9, the terms used herein are defined as follows:

ADD

CURRENT PROPERTY SURVEY—A property survey prepared by a licensed land surveyor that accurately depicts all existing improvements and site conditions and is dated no more than **five (5)**

years prior to the submission of an application. Any survey that does not reflect all existing improvements or site changes shall not be considered current and must be updated or replaced.

This Ordinance shall take effect following adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ziccarelli, Councilman Tolomeo, Councilman Ben-Yishay, Council Vice President Sieg and Council President Criscuolo voted yes.

2nd Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Tolomeo second by Councilwoman Sieg to open the meeting to the public.
All in Favor: Aye

Walt Wilson—Clinton, NJ – Mr. Wilson introduced himself and his brother Dave that was with him this evening.
He noted for Councilwoman Sieg's benefit that they are from New Milford and Dave just retired from New Milford High School where he was a teacher for 40 years.

Mr. Wilson met with Chief Bulger a few weeks ago. He had a box of old Police badges that belonged to his uncle Nelson Roberge and from Nelson's father David Roberge. When he met with the Chief he gave him the badges. Mr. Wilson explained that David Roberge was the first Chief of Police in River Vale and Nelson was the second. Mr. Wilson had the badges framed in display case and he was very pleased with how it came out. He was also very happy to present the badges to Chief Bulger, which will hopefully be displayed.

Mr. Wilson also had Fire Department badges. He wasn't able to get in contact with anyone at the Fire Department via email, so he decided to present the badges at a Council meeting.

Councilman Ben-Yishay suggesting giving the badges to either our Administrator or Mayor and they will discuss as to how to present to the Fire Department. Mr. Wilson was very happy to hear that, and he was glad they decided to attend this meeting and were able to see the new Officers sworn in.

The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Wilson and gave their word that the badges will be prominently displayed.

There being no further questions or comments. Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay second by Councilman Tolomeo to close the meeting to the public.
All in Favor: Aye

RESOLUTION

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to approve Resolutions #2026-197 as follows:

Resolution #2026-197

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate for the Township Council to discuss certain matters in a meeting not open to the public, the nature of which items are denoted below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale is hereby authorized to enter into Closed Session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent

that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise their ethical duties as a lawyer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion conducted in this session be disclosed at such time as the need for confidentially is no longer needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no formal action will be taken following the Closed Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ziccarelli , Councilman Tolomeo, Councilman Ben-Yishay, Council Vice President Sieg and Council President Criscuolo voted yes.

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to adjourn from Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg second by Councilman Tolomeo to adjourn the meeting 9:32pm.
All in Favor: Aye

Council President Criscuolo

ATTEST: *Karen Campanelli, Township Clerk*