MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
June 24, 2026 @ 7:30 P.M.
BOROUGH HALL - 100 CHURCH STREET - ALPINE, NJ
(This meeting was recorded in its entirety)

CALL TO ORDER / PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Mayor and Council, Borough of Alpine, convened for this Regular Meeting on June 24, 2026, at 7:31 P.M. in the Alpine Borough Hall. The Public Announcement was read: *In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the notice of this Regular meeting has met the requirements of the law by being e-mailed to The Record, posted on the bulletin board of the lobby in the Borough Hall and on the website and a copy filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.*

ROLL CALL

Paul H. Tomasko, Mayor	Present	Gayle Gerstein, Council President	Present*
George Abad, Councilman	Present	Scott Bosworth, Councilman	Present
Steven Cohen, Councilman	Present	Arthur Frankel, Councilman	Present
David Kupferschmid, Councilman	Present		

*by phone

Staff Present on Dais: Borough Clerk Stephanie Wehmann; Borough Attorney Levi Kool; Borough Engineer Perry Frenzel

PUBLIC COMMENTS
The meeting was opened to the public for comment. Hearing no further, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
ConnectOne Bank Current Operating Account **$3,306,461.95**

Resolution 124:06'2026 Return of Bonds and Escrow
INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Abad **SECONDED BY**: Councilman Cohen
At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on June 24, 2026, to return the following bonds or escrows:

Block	Lot	Name	Type	Amount
81.06	14	Ruben, Luna	ZBA Escrow	$119.42

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 125:06'2026 Approval of Bills and Claims
OFFERED BY: Councilman Abad **SECONDED BY**: Councilman Cohen
At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on June 24, 2026, to approve the bills and claims as outlined in the Finance Report.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 126:06'2026 Group Affidavit for the 2025 Audit
INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Abad **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel
at the regular meeting of the Alpine Mayor and Council held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year **2025** has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled: General Comments and Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled: 'General Comments – Recommendations' as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto, and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board, and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 - to wit: R.S. 52:27BB-52 - "A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provision of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

TAX ASSESSOR'S REPORT The report is on file.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tomasko shared the sad news of the passing and loss of Ralph Wehmann. The Mayor noted Mr. Wehmann's 41 years of service to the Borough, including his dedication as the former Superintendent of the DPW, Life Member and past Lieutenant of the Fire Department, and his service to the Country as a Vietnam veteran.

The Mayor then spoke about the upcoming observance of the 250th anniversary of our country: On July 4th, at 12:00, the bell at the Firehouse will be rung 13 times, followed by short talks by the Historian and the Commissioner of the Palisades Interstate Parkway Commission. The Safety Meeting was held on June 9. The Mayor attended the Alpine Public School and Tenafly High School graduations. The Alpine School graduated 24 students; the Valedictorian was Marina Li, Salutatorian Katherine Kim, and Citizenship Award Winner Olivia Gofman.

The Borough Clerk thanked everyone for their support during this time.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration Department 54 new OPRA requests were received for the month of May, bringing the annual total to 274. Also, the Swim Club is open and operational and can always use more members.

Building Department This month there were 41 scheduled inspections, 1 fence permit, 2 tree permits, 3 soil moving applications, 6 zoning review applications, and 2 miscellaneous permits. The records are on file.

Department of Public Works The DPW was busy with downed trees and clogged drains, as well as all of the work preparing for Memorial Day, which went very well.

Fire Department Statistics are on file.

Police Department There were 30 summonses issued and 5 motor vehicle accidents investigated, none resulting in injury. The report is on file.

Resolution 127:06'2026 Accepting the Reports of the Standing Committees
INTRODUCED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Abad

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on June 24, 2026, to accept the reports of the standing committees.

VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON'S REPORT There have been no Board of Education meetings. Today is the last day of school.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S REPORT No report.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT Plans and Specifications for the Walking Track planned to be installed at the Alpine School will be available tomorrow. Bids will be received on 7/9. This is a re-bid, after all bids received last fall were too high. The NJDOT advised that applications for the 2027 Mutual Aid Grants are due 7/1. This year the area targeted for the grant is Church Street.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS none

NEW BUSINESS CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions 128:06'2026 through 134:06'2026

Resolution 128:06'2026 Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting May 27, 2026 and Executive Session of May 27, 2026
OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel
at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of May 27, 2026.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 129:06'2026 Liquor License Renewal for Riverside Park, Inc. (Kiku Restaurant)
OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY**: Councilman Frankel
at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey to approve the renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
Liquor license # 0202-33-001-006
Riverside Park, Inc.
5-9 Route 9W, Alpine, NJ 07620
for a period of one year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2027.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution is subject to compliance by the licensee Riverside Park, Inc. (Kiku) with NJ DCA elevator safety unit requirements.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 130:06'2026 Liquor License Renewal for Montammy Golf Club
OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY**: Councilman Frankel
at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026
BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey to approve the renewal of a
Club License
Liquor License # 0202-31-002-001
Montammy Golf Club
Rt 9W Montammy Drive, Alpine, NJ 07620
for a period of one year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Kupferschmid **Abstain:** Gerstein **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 131:06'2026 Approval to Submit Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the FY 2027 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Transportation has made funding available to Counties and Municipalities through grant applications through the Municipal Aid Program, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Alpine, Bergen County intends to apply for funds through this program for **Church Street** Improvements (entirety of roadway);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of Alpine formally approves the grant application for the above-stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Engineer is hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **MA-2027-CHURCH STREET IMPROVEMENTS-00617** for Alpine Borough to the New Jersey Department of Transportation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of Borough of Alpine and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 132:06'2026 Authorizing Inclusion in the Bergen County Community Development Program

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Bergen under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; the HOME Investment Partnership Act of 1990, as amended; and the Emergency Solutions Grant Act of 2012; and

WHEREAS, the current Interlocal Services Cooperative Agreement contains an automatic renewal clause to expedite the notification of the inclusion process; and

WHEREAS, each Municipality must notify the Bergen County Division of Community Development of its intent to continue as a participant in the Urban County entitlement programs noted above; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough of Alpine and its residents to participate in said Programs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine hereby notifies the Bergen County Division of Community Development of its decision to be included as a participant Municipality in the Urban County entitlement programs being the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) **for the Fiscal Years 2027, 2028, and 2029 covering the period July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2030**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an original copy of this resolution be made available to the Director of the Bergen County Division of Community Development as soon as possible and no later than Monday, June 26, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 133:06'2026 Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with the County of Bergen to Supersede the Cooperative Agreement Dated July 1, 2024 and Amendments Thereto Establishing the Bergen County Community Development Program

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Frankel

at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026

WHEREAS, certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Bergen under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; the HOME Investment Partnership Act of 1990, as amended; and the Emergency Solutions Grant Act of 2012, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to supersede an existing Interlocal Services Cooperative Agreement for the County and its people to benefit from these programs; and

WHEREAS, an Agreement has been proposed under which the Borough of Alpine and the County of Bergen in cooperation with other Municipalities, will modify an Interlocal Services Program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Municipality of the Borough of Alpine to enter into such an Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine that the agreement entitled "Three Year Cooperative Agreement" (an Agreement superseding the Cooperative Agreement dated July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024) to clarify the planning and implementation procedures, and to enable the Municipality to make a Three Year irrevocable commitment to participate in the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) **for the Fiscal Years 2027, 2028, and 2029 covering the period July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2030** be executed by the Mayor and Municipal Clerk in accordance with the provisions of law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately in accordance with law and that an original copy be made available to the Director of the Bergen County Division of Community Development as soon as possible and **no later than Monday, July 20, 2026**.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

Resolution 134:05'2026 Authorizing Municipal Snow Plowing Agreement with the County of Bergen for the 2026-2028 Snow Plowing Seasons

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY**: Councilman Frankel

at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026

WHEREAS, the Borough of Alpine has participated in the annual Snow Plowing Program with the County of Bergen for many years; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen Department of Public Works has provided the Borough with the Agreement for the 2026-2028 snow plowing seasons,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Alpine agrees to furnish the necessary equipment and personnel required to perform snow plowing operations on County roads located within the Borough of Alpine for the two winter seasons commencing October 1, 2026 and ending April 30, 2028, and

WHEREAS, per the terms of the agreement, the County of Bergen shall compensate the Borough of Alpine at a rate of $125.00 (2027 season) and $130.00 (2028 season) per hour of active plowing. The County will not be required to pay for standby time. The County will continue to provide the municipality with salt sufficient for County roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Alpine that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with the County of Bergen Department of Public Works for the 2026-2028 Snow Plowing Program.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

COMMUNICATIONS The Mayor shared the draft June newsletter to the Council for review and comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 135:06'2026 RESOLUTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR MATTERS OF ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE/PENDING LITIGATION

OFFERED BY: Councilwoman Gerstein **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Abad

At a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, held on June 24, 2026,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b subsection designated below:

(b)(7) Matters Relating to Attorney Client Privilege/Pending Litigation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, assembled in public session on June 24, 2026, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Borough Council that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**
The meeting went into Executive Session at 7:46 pm and returned to Open Session at 8:16 pm.

Resolution 136:06'2026 Authorizing the Settlement of Simpson v. Alpine, et al. Docket Number BER-L-1868-24
OFFERED BY: Councilman Cohen **SECONDED BY:** Councilman Bosworth

WHEREAS, Wendell Simpson commenced a civil action captioned Simpson v. Borough of Alpine, et al., pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County, under Docket No. BER-L-1868-24, arising from and relating to his employment with the Borough of Alpine; and

WHEREAS, the parties, through their respective counsel, have negotiated a Settlement Agreement and General Release dated July 2026, which provides for the complete and final resolution of the litigation and all employment-related claims encompassed by the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the material settlement terms include retroactive promotions, related seniority and experience credits, back pay and pension contributions, the timing and conditions of Mr. Simpson's retirement, a payment by the Borough's insurance carrier, comprehensive releases, and dismissal of the civil action with prejudice; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed the proposed settlement with counsel and have determined that resolving the matter in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and General Release is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Borough, without any admission of liability or wrongdoing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Alpine hereby approve the settlement of the matter captioned *Wendell Simpson v. Borough of Alpine, et al.*, Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County, Docket No. BER-L-1868-24, substantially in accordance with the Settlement Agreement reviewed by the governing body, including the retroactive promotion and corresponding salary and pension adjustments set forth therein, Simpson's retirement in accordance with the Agreement, and the payment of $125,000 by the Borough's insurance carrier; and
2. The Mayor is authorized to execute the Settlement Agreement and General Release on behalf of the Borough, and the Borough Clerk is authorized to attest to the Mayor's signature and to take all administrative actions reasonably necessary to effectuate the settlement. The Borough Attorney is authorized to approve and make nonmaterial revisions that are consistent with the terms approved by this Resolution.
3. The appropriate Borough officials and employees, including the Borough Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Police Department, payroll personnel, and pension liaison, are authorized and directed to implement the Borough's obligations under the Settlement Agreement and General Release, including the following. All Borough expenditures authorized by this Resolution are subject to certification by the Chief Financial Officer as required by law.
4. The Borough Attorney and any counsel appointed by the Borough's insurance carrier are authorized to execute and file any stipulation, dismissal, release, or other document necessary to dismiss Simpson v. Borough of Alpine, et al., Docket No. BER-L-1868-24, with prejudice, including dismissal of the individual defendants without financial contribution, in accordance with the settlement.
5. The settlement is a compromise of disputed claims and shall not constitute or be construed as an admission of liability, wrongdoing, statutory violation, or damages by the Borough, the Borough of Alpine Police Department, any individual defendant, or any present or former official, officer, employee, agent, or representative of the Borough.
6. The terms of the settlement and all related records shall be maintained, disclosed, or withheld in accordance with applicable law, including the Open Public Records Act and all laws governing personnel records, attorney-client communications, and litigation materials.
7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Abad, Bosworth, Cohen, Frankel, Gerstein, Kupferschmid **MOTION APPROVED**

ADJOURNMENT
Upon a motion by Councilman Cohen, seconded by Councilman Kupferschmid, and approved by all, this regular meeting of the Mayor and Council adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Wehmann
Municipal Clerk

These minutes have been approved by the Mayor and Council.