The Council Regular meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Carelli presiding.

ROLL CALL: **Present: Kheyfets Desai, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini**
Absent: Oswald

The Municipal Clerk announced that proper notice of this meeting was made as to time, date, place and agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — *Borough Council*

September 9, 2026

Councilman Revis set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Desai to approve the above listed minutes as read.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes: Kheyfets, Desai, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini**
Nays: None
Absent: Oswald
Abstain: None
(5 ayes, 0 nay – 1 Absent - 0 Abstain - motion carried)

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION:

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

There being no comments, Mayor Carelli closed the public portion.

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA — *Borough Council*

All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single Motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Council request Specific items to be removed for separate action.

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell to approve the following resolutions:

158-2026: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 FOR 2025-2026 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF $1,394,886.02

159-2026: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN THE AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY $5,000.00 TO FUND THE NJUCF GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT - COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT

160-2026: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF JULIAN FERNANDEZ TO THE PROBATIONARY POSITION OF DPW UTILITYPERSON – GRADE C IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

161-2026: RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2026 AS OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE

ROLL CALL: **Ayes: Kheyfets, Desai, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini**
Nays: None
Absent: Oswald
(5 ayes, 0 nays – 1 Absent – 0 Abstain – motion carried)

COPY OF RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 57 A-D

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS — *Borough Council*

PERSONNEL: Councilman Kheyfets just wanted to say what a great job Riverdale Day was. The fireworks and music were amazing this year. DPW always does a great job you would have never known we were at the park.

COMMUNICATIONS: Councilman Purcell echoed Councilman Kheyfets response on Riverdale Day. It was one of our best turnouts. He thanked the DPW, PD and Fire, our Recreation Director and the Recreation Team you all do a great job.

PUBLIC WORKS: Council President Pellegrini said the weekend went great. The DPW does a fantastic job and so as a reward we have two new trucks coming on Friday.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Revis also would like to echo what a great weekend it was DPW and everyone that was involved did a fantastic job. Neither Chief Quant or Chief Regeling had anything specific for tonight. He did attend the Dial-A-Ride meeting this morning and it turns out that Kinnelon is going to be leaving as of December 31st. Last year they had 11,000 trips through August on Dial-A-Ride together. Kinnelon had a 1,070 which is 6.5% of the volume. Riverdale had 1,370 which is 11.7% and we currently pay $44,652.00. Tom Cantisano is working on the Budget and he is going to attempt to make it as painless as possible for the towns that are left. It looks like under the preliminary estimate Riverdale will go up about $12,500.00 based on the current volume. The fee is based on the town population not the number of trips. Butler had 2,611 rides, Lincoln Park had 2,894 and Pequannock had 3,410.

FINANCE/SEWER: Councilman Desai reported that Bloomingdale interceptor project bid was rejected they didn't fill out something. There was some discussion ensued whether or not we should open up the bidding to another process other than spiral round but they figured that would open a big can of worms so the council unanimously agreed to shut that down. We haven't opened up the bidding for the Riverdale interceptor which is a really big job. It's interesting to see how this all unfolds. Discussion Ensued.

MAYOR REPORT ***Mayor Paul M. Carelli***

- Street Sign Request – Albanian American Cultural Center

Mayor Carelli reported that last week he was approached by the Albanian American Cultural Center and they have a sister city in Macedonia called Struga. The mayor of Struga was visiting and they asked if I would meet him and he did. He was a very nice man and he had an interpreter and they took a few pictures around Borough Hall and they were very happy about that. They made a request that if we can do it on Kenner Court, an honorary street sign. At first, they asked if we can rename the street and he said no but they could put a sign underneath that says Struga Lane, Place or Court. The mayor will get back to them and let them know we will be reviewing it.

- Road Project Funding Updates

Mayor Carelli reported that they finished up Mathews Avenue and it turned out pretty good and that's completed. Tom is waiting to get a price for a table which would be as you are heading from Hamburg up to Route 23 right after Hemlock Street, this is done after it's paved. That was the 2024 DOT Grant. Now we have the 2025 DOT Grant that has to be awarded by November and that's for DeGraw, Kenner Court and North Corporate. He has received the engineers estimate and minus the grant and then we have the 2026 grant that we received and that's for Mead Avenue and Arlington which finishes up the Sewer Project. Right now, the estimates minus the grants we are short about $300,000. We are going to have to do another bond ordinance. What he would like to do he is working with Chris and the Bond Counsel to do a supplemental for $300,000 which we will introduce at the next meeting and adopted at the November meeting so we can award the contract at least for the 2025 Grant. We have the 2027 application but we haven't heard back yet that is for both sides of sidewalks for Riverdale Road the entire length.

- Street Sweeper Discussion

Mayor Carelli reported that we did a bond ordinance in the sewer and water utility and we allocated $300,000 for a new street sweeper and it's $325,000. We had several line items that there were items in there and the two trucks that you are referring to we came in $100,000 under what we allocated. We can't just charge the sweeper to another line item they have to redo the ordinance and no more money would be allocated. Each line item has to be reallocated. With the street sweeper we currently have a contract with Bloomingdale to sweep our streets once a week in 2027 that fee will be $24,000. Pompton Lakes has a contract with Bloomingdale as well and their streets are done twice a week and it's seasonal from April to October and next year their fee will be $54,000. Pompton expressed an interest and he spoke to the mayor of Pompton and if we

purchase the street sweeper they would like to have a contract with us for two days a week. Currently what we are spending and what we can make it's almost $80,000 so the sweeper will pay for itself in like four years. We are thinking of hiring someone maybe a part-time person and it would only be three days a week that they would have to sweep. Councilman Desai asked if we could request the contract before committing to purchase and the mayor responded yes. The mayor is going to get another shared service contract with them for using our Jet Vac per diem. They have a deal with Ringwood right now. They would be more than happy to have us go over and do it.

The mayor received a letter from the Morris County Surrogate who is Heather Darling and they are trying to honor Morris County Communities and they want to recognize and honor people that gave many years of their life to help make your community a better place. So, they are asking if we want to nominate a resident for this. They want to do a lifetime service award with the nominees on Thursday, November 5th in Morristown.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

Melissa Harsley, 52 Wilson Avenue, she was here five months ago and talked about the street signs, curbing and the mess at the bottom of Stoneleigh. The mayor will follow up with the DPW on the street signs. They discussed the mess at the bottom of Stoneleigh.

Kim Soto, 23 Halsey Avenue, she asked about the sewer project. The attorney responded that we were notified by the bonding company, we were sent a letter essentially that they were taking over and not to pay anyone anything. He has a call out to their attorney to try and find out what that mean and what contractor are you bringing in to finish the project. The project is bonded so the bonding company is responsible to do it with the price that we contracted with. There are concerns with that what contractor are they going to bring in, what control will we have over it, we want to make sure we get someone in there that we believe is competent to do the work. We have questions as to how, when and what parameters are around it. Once we get in touch with the bonding company we are hoping to start a dialog. Mrs. Soto said something has to be done with KIA and the way they drive.

There being no further comments, Mayor Carelli closed the public session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION *Borough Council*

At 8:44p.m. Mayor Carelli announced that Council would go into executive session to discuss three items one is Potential Property Purchase / Contract Update and Personnel.

ALL IN FAVOR

Closed session being completed, the meeting returned to public session at 9:13p.m.

ALL IN FAVOR

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell to adjourn the meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 9:13PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Abubakar T. Jalloh
Municipal Clerk