

BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK COUNTY OF HUDSON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DATE: JANUARY 25, 2024  
TIME: 6:30 PM

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark was called to order at approximately 6:30 P.M., by Borough Clerk Dr. Cosmo A. Cirillo.

**MEETING NOTICE STATEMENT** - As presiding officer of this Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark, held on January 25, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., I do hereby publicly announce, and I direct that this announcement shall be placed in the minutes of this meeting, and that the Notice requirements provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given to the Borough Council by Resolution. Said notice was transmitted by the Borough Clerk to the Jersey Journal and Star Ledger and publicly posted on the Borough Website, Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the office of the Borough Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilwoman Diaz  
Councilman Graham  
Councilwoman Evaristo  
Councilman Reis  
Councilman Sheehan  
Councilwoman Zincavage  
Mayor Grilo

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Dr. Cosmo A. Cirillo, Borough Clerk  
Mr. Fred Confessore, Borough Administrator  
Mr. Michael Cifelli, Borough Attorney  
Mr. Hiram Gonzalez, Temporary CFO

**PROCLAMATION**

- A. Recognizing January 2024 as Muslim Heritage Month  
Mayor Grilo presented the proclamation to Arjumand Juweria on behalf of the Borough Council and residents and highlighted the Borough's rich diversity.

Ms. Juweria thanked Mayor Grilo and the Borough Council for recognizing Muslim Heritage Month and for all their service to the community.

**CONSENT AGENDA - RESOLUTIONS**

The consent agenda consisted of Resolutions 16-24, 17-24, 18-24, and 19-24.

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Evaristo, second by Councilman Graham, to adopt the consent agenda as established. The motion was adopted by the following votes.**

Ayes: Diaz; Evaristo; Graham; Reis; Sheehan; Zincavage  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Note\* - Councilwoman Diaz abstained on Resolution 16-24  
Absent: None

- A. Resolution 16-24 – Approving the payment of bills and the issuance of checks for the period through January 25, 2024

Resolution # 16-24  
1-25-2024

**BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK  
COUNTY OF HUDSON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS  
FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JANUARY 25, 2024, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF  
\$358,573.14**

WHEREAS, certain bills which are contained on the bills list which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein have been submitted to the Borough of East Newark for payment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16, it has been certified to the governing body that the goods and services for which said bills were submitted have been received by or rendered to the Borough of East Newark; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of East Newark has certified to the governing body that there are funds legally appropriated and available in the budget for the payment of said bills and that the said payment will not result in the disbursement of public monies or in the encumbering of same in excess of the 2023 and/or 2024 appropriation for said purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark, in the County of Hudson, State of New Jersey, that it hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer and the designated signatories to sign checks in payment of the bills set forth in the annexed schedule.

B. Resolution 17-24 – Authorizing Award of Professional Service Contract for Special Counsel Services to The Murray Law Firm, LLC

Resolution # 17-24  
1-25-2024

BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK  
COUNTY OF HUDSON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL SERVICES TO THE MURRAY LAW FIRM, LLC

WHEREAS, the Borough of East Newark (“Borough”) is presently in need of Special Counsel services; and

WHEREAS, Borough Administrator has solicited a proposal from The Murray Law Firm, LLC with offices located at 67 Church Street, Fair Haven, NJ 07704; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the proposal, the Borough Administrator recommends the award of contract to Karen A. Murray, Esq. of The Murray Law Firm, LLC for such services for 2024 in an amount of \$160.00 per hour, not to exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the term of contract will be from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark, County of Hudson, State of New Jersey do hereby award a contract to The Murray Law Firm, LLC for Special Counsel services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Murray Law Firm, LLC’s contract shall not exceed \$17,500.00, and shall commence January 1, 2024 and expire December 31, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer, certifies that funds are available for the appropriation from Current Fund - 04-01-20-155-2150

C. Resolution 18-24 – Authorizing Award of Professional Service Contract to Edmunds GovTech for Tax Computer Support Software

Resolution # 18-24  
1-25-2024

BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK  
COUNTY OF HUDSON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO EDMUNDS GOVTECH FOR TAX COMPUTER SUPPORT SOFTWARE

WHEREAS, the Borough of East Newark (“Borough”) is presently in need of new software support services for the Tax Collectors Office; and

WHEREAS, Borough Administrator and Tax Collector solicited a proposal from Edmunds GovTech for software support services; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the proposal, the Borough Administrator and Tax Collector recommend the award of contract to Edmunds GovTech for such services for 2024 in the amount of \$5,650.00, an amount below the Borough’s quote and bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, the term of contract will be from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark, County of Hudson, State of New Jersey do hereby award a contract to Edmunds GovTech to provide software support services to the Tax Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Edmunds GovTech’s contract shall not exceed \$5,650.00, and shall commence January 1, 2024 and expire December 31, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer, certifies that funds are available for the appropriation from Current Fund - 04-01-20-155-2150

D. Resolution 19-24 – Authorizing the Appointment of Hiram Gonzalez as Temporary Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of East Newark

Resolution # 19-24  
1-25-2024

**BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK**  
**COUNTY OF HUDSON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF HIRAM GONZALEZ AS TEMPORARY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST NEWARK**

WHEREAS, New Jersey Statutes and Rules N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.10 et seq. requires that every municipality have a Chief Financial Officer, who shall be appointed by the municipality’s governing body; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.13 et seq. when a vacancy occurs in the office of chief financial officer following the appointment of a certified municipal finance officer to that office, a person who does not hold a municipal finance officer certificate can be appointed to a one-year term, with a re-appointment of no more than two years, to serve as a temporary chief financial officer; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred in the position of Chief Financial Officer with the resignation of Juan B. Uribe on November 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of East Newark is entering into a Shared Services Agreement with the Town of Guttenberg for various services including, but not limited to, Financial Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Newark, County of Hudson, State of New Jersey that Hiram Gonzalez is hereby appointed as Temporary Chief Financial Officer of the Brough of East Newark retroactive to December 1, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Hiram Gonzalez shall be compensated as specified in the shared services agreement with the Town of Guttenberg;

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

No one wished to be heard.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Councilman Graham, second by Councilwoman Zincavage, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion was adopted by the following votes.**

Ayes:	Diaz; Evaristo; Graham; Reis; Sheehan; Zincavage
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Cosmo A. Cirillo, RMC  
Borough Clerk

Dated: February 14

Accepted and approved by Council: Resolution #21-2024