

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

A G E N D A

Regular and Executive Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council

Date: April 14, 2025

Open Public Meetings Statement by Mayor Jimenez

Public Session: 6:30 P.M. C.T.O.: Adjourn:

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Citizens Comment on Agenda:

Correspondence:

Presentation of Earth Day Poster Contest Winner Certificates

Presentation of Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month Proclamation and Certificates

138-2025 Councilman Ryu Introduction of CY2025 Budget

ROLL CALL-PUBLIC SESSION

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mayor Jimenez		
Congalton-Hali		
Kontolios		
Ryu		
Kim		
Ramundo		
Jaafar		

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2511 entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$920,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$384,030 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COSTS THEREOF AND DECLARING NULL AND VOID BOND ORDINANCE 2501"

Entertain motion to declare the time for the public hearing to be declared open

Public Hearing

Entertain motion to declare the time for the public hearing to be declared closed

Final Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2512 entitled, “YEAR 2025 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Borough Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member(s) so request it, in which case the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The one motion signifies the adoption of all resolutions and approval of applications and minutes.

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------|---|
| 139-2025 | Councilman Ryu | Certify Compliance with Federal Equal Rights Requirements |
| 140-2025 | Councilman Ryu | Shared Services with Board of Education-School Buses |
| 141-2025 | Councilman Ryu | By-Law Amendments |
| 142-2025 | Councilman Kontolios | Hire Community Center Attendant-J. Schaeffer |

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

March 10, 2025 and March 24, 2025 Public Session Meetings

Coin Toss Request:

Project Graduation 2025
Saturday, April 19, 2025
Saturday, May 17, 2025
Bergen Boulevard at Washington Avenue

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

RESOLUTIONS:

143-2025 Councilman Ryu Warrants

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL:

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATOR:

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS: (All speakers are limited to five minutes maximum per meeting)

Agenda subject to change as a result of matters not known at time of printing with the consent of the Mayor and Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

RESOLUTION NO. 138-2025

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenue and appropriations attached hereto constitute the local Budget of the Borough of Ridgefield, Bergen County, New Jersey for Calendar Year 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget will be published in The Record in the issue of April 22, 2025 and that a hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Ridgefield Municipal Complex on May 19, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

2025 Municipal Budget

of the Borough of Ridgefield ,
 County Bergen for the year 2025

Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2025	2024
1. Surplus	3,175,000.00	3,175,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	9,927,009.89	9,816,187.30
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	370,000.00	370,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	12,902,179.81	12,180,859.13
b) Addition to Local District School Tax		
c) Minimum Library Tax	872,322.00	895,112.00
Tot Amt to be Rsd by Taxes for Sup of Mun. Bud	13,774,501.81	13,075,971.13
Total General Revenues	27,246,511.70	26,437,158.43

Summary of Appropriations	2025 Budget	Final 2024 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	8,817,979.00	8,701,919.00
Other Expenses	11,421,408.89	11,129,360.89
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	2,906,523.81	2,596,278.54
3. Capital Improvements	50,000.00	50,000.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)	3,153,600.00	3,062,600.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	897,000.00	897,000.00
Total General Appropriations	27,246,511.70	26,437,158.43
Total Number of Employees		

2025 Dedicated Swim Pool Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2025	2024
1. Surplus		
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	279,500.00	220,024.00
3. Deficit (General Budget)	154,963.00	205,986.54
Total Revenues	434,463.00	426,010.54

Summary of Appropriations	2025 Budget	Final 2024 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	271,500.00	237,500.00
Other Expenses	118,750.00	109,750.00
2. Capital Improvements		
3. Debt Service		
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	44,213.00	78,760.54
5. Surplus (General Budget)		
Total Appropriations	434,463.00	426,010.54
Total Number of Employees		

Balance of Outstanding Debt		
	General	Utility - Other
Interest	908,050.00	
Principal	2,030,000.00	
Outstanding Balance	23,030,000.00	

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Ridgefield, County of Bergen on April 14 ,2025.

A hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Ridgefield Municipal building, on May 19, 2025 at 6:30 o'clock P.M. at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2025 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the Budget are available in the office of Linda Silvestri, Borough Clerk, at the Municipal Building, 700 Shaler Boulevard, Ridgefield, New Jersey, Phone #201-943-5215 during the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M..

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

ORDINANCE NO. 2511

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that an Ordinance entitled,

“BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$920,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$384,030 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COSTS THEREOF AND DECLARING NULL AND VOID BOND ORDINANCE 2501”

introduced on the 24th day of March, 2025, do now pass a final reading and be adopted, and that the Borough Clerk be and she is authorized and directed to publish once, the aforesaid title, together with a notice of the date of its passage on final reading and approval thereof in The Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Ridgefield.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting March 24, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

ORDINANCE NO. 2511

“BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$920,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$384,030 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COSTS THEREOF AND DECLARING NULL AND VOID BOND ORDINANCE 2501”

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized as general improvements or purposes to be undertaken by the Borough of Ridgefield, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey (the “Borough”). For the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the aggregate sum of \$920,000, which sum is inclusive of a grant received or expected to be received from the State of New Jersey Division of Local Government Services in the amount of \$500,000 (allocable to the Wolf Creek improvements described in paragraph 3(a)(iii) herein (the “Grant”), and the amount of \$35,970 as the aggregate down payment for said improvements or purposes as required by the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 *et seq.* (the “Local Bond Law”). The down payment is now available by virtue of a provision or provisions in a previously adopted budget or budgets of the Borough for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$920,000 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said Grant, Borough Contribution and down payment, negotiable bonds of the Borough are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$384,030 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$384,030 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued include, but are not limited to, as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Down Payment/ Borough Contribution</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
(i) <u>Department of Public Works</u> – Acquisition of a Bus;	\$210,000	\$192,015	\$17,985	10 years
(ii) <u>Community Center</u> – Construction Of And/Or Acquisition And Installation, As Applicable, Of A Room Divider; And	\$210,000	\$192,015	\$17,985	20 years
(iii) <u>Wolf Creek Improvements</u> – Various Improvements At Wolf Creek Including, But Not Limited To, Flood Mitigation Improvements.	\$500,000 (Allocation of the Grant)	0	0	N/A
	<u>\$920,000</u>	<u>\$384,030</u>	<u>\$35,970</u>	

(b) The aggregate estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said improvements or purposes is \$384,030.

(c) The aggregate estimated cost of said improvements or purposes is \$920,000, the excess amount thereof over the said estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor is the Grant, the Borough Contribution, and the aggregate down payment.

(d) All such improvements or purposes set forth in Section 3(a) shall include, but are not limited to, as applicable, all engineering and design work, surveying, construction planning, preparation of plans and specifications, permits, bid documents, construction inspection and contract administration, and also shall include all work, materials, equipment, accessories, labor and appurtenances necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

SECTION 4. Except for the Grant, in the event the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen or a private entity make a contribution or grant in aid to the Borough for the improvements and purposes authorized hereby and the same shall be received by the Borough prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then the amount of such bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount so received from the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen or a private entity. Except for the Grant, in the event, however, that any amount so contributed or granted by the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen or a private entity shall be received by the Borough after the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then such funds shall be applied to the payment of the bonds or notes so issued and shall be used for no other purpose. This Section 4 shall not apply, however, with respect to any contribution or grant in aid received by the Borough as a result of using funds from this bond ordinance as “matching local funds” to receive such contribution or grant in aid.

SECTION 5. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough, provided that no note shall

mature later than one (1) year from its date unless such bond anticipation notes are permitted to mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-8.1. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at a public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price and accrued interest thereon from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, the description, the interest rate, the maturity schedule of the notes so sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 6. The capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith and a resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital programs as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, is on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and is available for public inspection.

SECTION 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements which the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness of said purposes within the limitations of said Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 15 years.

(c) The supplemental debt statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds or notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$384,030 and the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$138,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements herein before described.

SECTION 8. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough

shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the principal of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

SECTION 9. The Borough hereby declares the intent of the Borough to issue the bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 9 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

SECTION 10. The Borough Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Borough and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Borough. The Borough Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Borough pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Rule”) for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Borough and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Borough fails to comply with its undertaking, the Borough shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

SECTION 11. The Borough covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Code of the interest on all bonds and notes issued under this bond ordinance.

SECTION 12. Bond Ordinance 2501 finally adopted on October 28, 2024 (which amended Bond Ordinance 2457 finally adopted on May 22, 2023) is hereby declared null and void.

SECTION 13. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

ORDINANCE NO. 2512

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that an Ordinance entitled,

“YEAR 2025 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)”

introduced on the 14th day of April, 2025, do now pass a first reading and that said Ordinance be further considered for final passage at a regular meeting to be held on the 28th day of April, 2025 at 6:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached at a regular meeting of the Borough Council to be held at the Municipal Complex, 700 Shaler Boulevard and that at such time and place, all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to publish in The Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Ridgefield said Ordinance according to law, with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading, and of the time and place when and where said Ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORDINANCE INTRODUCED AT THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025.

Linda M. Silvestri, Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

ORDINANCE NO. 2512

“YEAR 2025 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)”

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Ridgefield in the County of Bergen finds it advisable and necessary to increase its 2025 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 1% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$189,281.93 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ridgefield, in the County of Bergen, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the 2025 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Ridgefield shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$662,486.74, and that the 2025 municipal budget for the Borough of Ridgefield be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

RESOLUTION NO. 139-2025

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183 requires the governing body of each municipality and county to certify that their local unit's hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964," *as amended*, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, (April 25, 2012) before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the contents of the above-referenced enforcement guidance and with their local unit's hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual's criminal history, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Governing Body of the Borough of Ridgefield, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183, by certifying that the local unit's hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance.

Approved:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Attest:

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025.

Linda M. Silvestri, Borough Clerk

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO P.L. 2017, C.183 OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S

"Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

GROUP AFFIDAVIT FORM FOR MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES NO PHOTO COPIES OF SIGNATURES

STATE OF NEW JERSEY COUNTY OF BERGEN

We, members of the governing body of the Borough of Ridgefield being duly sworn according to law, upon our oath depose and say:

- 1. We are duly elected members of the Governing Body of the Borough of Ridgefield in the County of Bergen;
2. Pursuant to P.L. 2017, c.183, we have familiarized ourselves with the contents of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964," as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., (April 25, 2012);
3. We are familiar with the local unit's hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual's criminal history;
4. We certify that the local unit's hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance.

_____(L.S.) Hugo Jimenez

_____(L.S.) Joanna Congalton-Hali

_____(L.S.) Yongki Colin Ryu

_____(L.S.) Gino Ramundo

_____(L.S.) James Kontolios

_____(L.S.) Sarah Kim

_____(L.S.) Mohamed Jaafar

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ___ day of ___ Notary Public of New Jersey

Clerk

The Municipal Clerk (or Clerk of the Board of Commissioners as the case may be) shall set forth the reason for the absence of signature of any members of the governing body.

IMPORTANT: This certificate must be executed before a municipality or county can submit its approved budget to the Division of Local Government Services. The executed certificate and the adopted resolution must be kept on file and available for inspection.

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

RESOLUTION NO. 140-2025

WHEREAS, the Ridgefield Board of Education and the Borough of Ridgefield are desirous of entering into a shared services agreement to expand transportation services and resources for the Borough's programs using Board of Education owned school buses qualified school bus drivers employed by the Borough of Ridgefield; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ridgefield and the Ridgefield Board of Education have agreed to enter into a Shared Services Agreement for the use of school buses owned by the Ridgefield Board of Education and qualified school bus drivers employed by the Borough of Ridgefield; and

WHEREAS, such an agreement would be in the best interests of both the Borough of Ridgefield and the Board of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that the Mayor and the Borough Clerk be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to enter into an Shared Services Agreement with the Ridgefield Board of Education in the form as attached hereto, and further that a copy of the agreement be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs for informational purposes once it has been fully executed by both parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the approval of this Shared Services Agreement is contingent upon its acceptance and execution by the Ridgefield Board of Education within thirty (30) days of the date of adoption of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution once adopted, to the Secretary of the Ridgefield Board of Education.

Approved:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Attest:

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

COUNCIL VOTE				
	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

**SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD AND THE
RIDGEFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUSES**

Whereas, the Ridgefield Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) with its office located at 555 Chestnut Road, Ridgefield, New Jersey and the Borough of Ridgefield (hereinafter referred to as the “Borough”) having its principal office located at 700 Shaler Boulevard, Ridgefield, NJ 07657 (collectively referred to as the “Parties”) are desirous of entering into a shared services agreement to expand transportation services and resources for the Borough’s programs using school buses owned by the Board in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein. This Agreement is created pursuant to the authority set out in the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, codified at N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.:

Whereas, the Borough of Ridgefield operates recreational programs for the children and residents of the Borough, along with senior citizen activities which require it to transport its participating citizens.

Whereas, the Ridgefield Board of Education provides transportation services to its students in order for them to access curricular and extracurricular programs, services and activities.

Whereas, the Board has a fleet of school buses that it uses to transport students to and from school, as well as to transport students to/from Board-sponsored and affiliated activities.

Whereas, there are certain periods of time when the Board’s school buses are not used to transport students and could be used by the Borough to support some of its activities and services.

Whereas, due to limited resources and staffing circumstances that arise outside of the Board’s control, there are times when the Board of Education may need to utilize individuals, other than its employees to provide transportation services to its students.

Whereas, the Borough of Ridgefield employs and/or may employ individuals who are qualified to drive and operate the Board of Education’s school buses and school vehicles.

Whereas, the services, obligations, and considerations set forth in this Agreement are permitted by New Jersey Law, including N.J.S.A. 18A:39-22.1 which specifically authorizes school boards to share its school buses with municipalities for specific purposes.

Whereas, resolutions authorizing this Agreement have been approved and issued by both the Board of Education and the Township Council.

Now, therefore, on this 13th day of March, 2025 in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and agreements contained herein, the parties, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

Section 1: Scope of Services

Transportation services as follows:

- A. On an as-needed basis and subject to availability, the Board will provide District-owned school buses to the Borough to provide the following transportation services to Ridgefield residents:

- i. Transportation to and from the Ridgefield Senior Resident’s home and the Senior Center located in Ridgefield, New Jersey. The Borough shall provide the Board with a list of Senior Residents and their home addresses who will be receiving transportation services.
 - ii. Transportation of Ridgefield residents with disabilities. The Borough shall provide the Board with a list of residents who qualify for and utilize this transportation service, including a list of routes for such transportation.
 - iii. Transportation for Ridgefield residents to and from trip destinations as determined by the Borough Recreation Department’s approved calendar of events, a copy of which is attached as Schedule A, and/or to and from Borough-approved trips and activities.
- B. On an as-needed basis and subject to availability, the Board will utilize Borough employees upon request to transport Board of Education students to/from school and/or extracurricular activities when the Board of Education’s employees are unable and/or unavailable to do so.

Section 2: **Term:** The term of this Agreement shall be for one (1) year, commencing on March 13, 2025 and terminating on December 31, 2025. This shared service agreement shall automatically renew at expiration therefore unless terminated by either party as per section 3 “Termination.”

Section 3: **Termination:** Subject to Section 6(d) of this Agreement, either party may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice.

Within thirty (30) days of termination, the Borough shall pay to the Board of Education, all amounts then unpaid and due pursuant to this Contract for use of the Board’s school buses through the date of termination.

Section 4: **Conditions for Borough’s Use of School Buses:**

- A. The use of the school buses must not interfere with the transportation of school pupils. The parties understand and agree that the Board is under no obligation to provide buses to the Borough under this Agreement in the event that, on any specific day, the Board does not have the capacity to provide same or if providing same will negatively impact the Board’s ability to provide adequate transportation services to its students. However, the Board will nevertheless utilize its best efforts to assist the Borough with the provision of buses if possible.
- B. The buses shall only be operated by individuals licensed as bus drivers.
- C. The Borough shall provide the Board of Education with advance monthly notice of all proposed trips and activities that will necessitate use of the Board’s school buses so that the Board can review and approve such use. For example, by the 10th of the month preceding the requested use of a school bus or buses, the Borough shall submit a list of activities/trips, the dates and times of such, and the routes to be utilized. The Borough shall also confirm that the individuals utilizing the school

buses are Ridgefield Residents. This list of activities and routes shall be submitted to the Board of Education for review and consideration. The Board shall review the requested use at a regularly-scheduled public meeting, and will notify the Borough of what has been approved by the 30th of the month preceding the Borough's intended or anticipated activities, trips and routes. Provided that the Borough's requested use complies with the terms of this Agreement, the Board of Education shall not unreasonably withhold its approval.

- D. The Borough will pay the Board \$0.655 for each mile associated with its use of the Board's school buses for the purpose of wear and tear
- E. The Board shall record the mileage of the specific bus(es) utilized at the time it is provided to the Borough for use, and the amount of miles on the bus(es) at the time of return.
- F. The Borough will be responsible for the costs of fueling each school bus utilized and ensure that the school bus is returned with the same level of fuel it was received with.
- G. The Borough will pay the costs of any/all tolls incurred as a result of using the Board's school buses.
- H. The Borough will provide the Board with the names and copies of their commercial driver's license ("CDL") for each individual that will drive a school bus. Only properly licensed individuals shall operate school buses.
- I. The Borough will reimburse the Board for the costs associated with any increased premiums associated with adding the Borough's drivers on the Board's insurance policy and for adding the Borough as an additional insured.
- J. All use of District buses for transportation as provided in Section 3, above, shall comply with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-22 regarding the permitted use of buses for Borough residents.

Section 5: Conditions for Board's Use of the Borough's Drivers

- A. In the event the Board of Education is unable to utilize its own employees to transport students to/from school and/or to/from extracurricular activities, the Borough will agree to have its own employees provide the transportation services for the Board of Education, using the Board of Education's buses.
- B. Any Borough employee who drives a school bus must possess a CDL and must have completed a criminal history review in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.
- C. The Board of Education will reimburse the Borough for the employee's regular hourly rate for all hours spent providing the transportation services plus 8% of income earned for the Borough's FICA and NJFMLA employer expense

- D. Drivers employed by the Borough will remain Borough employees when providing services to the Board but are subject to all applicable policies of both the Board and the Borough. Should an issue arise with a driver while transporting District students, the Board will immediately notify the Borough, who shall address the situation as it pertains to its employee.
- E. Borough drivers will drive Board of Education routes, and will be provided with said routes, as well as any specialized training on Board vehicles, if necessary, prior to beginning service in the school district.

Section 6: **Notices:** Any notices required under this Agreement will be given and will be complete by mailing such notices by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or by hand delivery, fax or overnight delivery service, to the following, or such other address as may be designed in writing.

If to the Board:

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Ridgefield Board of Education
555 Chestnut Street
Ridgefield, New Jersey 07657

If to the Borough:

Borough Clerk
Boro of Ridgefield
700 Shaler Boulevard
Ridgefield, NJ 07657

Section 6: **Liability Insurance:** Each party agrees, at its own cost and expense, to obtain or provide and keep in full force during the term stated herein, General Liability (to include coverage for Sexual Harassment & Molestation), Auto Liability, Auto Physical Damage, and Workers' Compensation insurance, insuring the parties against any and all liability or claims of liability arising out of, occasioned by or resulting from any accident or otherwise in connection with this Agreement for injuries to any persons or property. The minimum insurance requirements shall be as followed:

I. General Liability:

- a. Commercial General Liability with a \$2,000,000 Combined Single Limit of Liability per occurrence per project for Bodily Injury and Property Damage including Blanket Contractual Liability, Products Liability, Completed Operations and all Broad Form Comprehensive General Liability enhancements and must provide coverage for sexual abuse and molestation.
- b. Contractor's insurance to be Primary and Non-Contributory.
- c. 30 day notice of intent to cancel, non-renew, or make material change in coverage.
- d. Executed Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement or substantially similar provisions should be included in the bid specifications and contract.

e. Evidence of Sexual Harassment & Molestation

II. Automobile Liability:

- a. \$10,000,000 Combined Single Limit of Liability for Bodily Injury and Property Damage per accident.
- b. All other requirements the same as provided under "General Liability" above.

III. Workers Compensation:

- a. Certificate of Insurance indicating "statutory" limits.
- b. 30 day notice of intent to cancel, non

Additionally, each party agrees to add the other party as an additional insured on its general liability policy. The insurance policies will be delivered to the other, together with Certificates of Insurance, not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the commencement of this Agreement. At least fifteen (15) days before the expiration or termination of any policy, the party will deliver a renewal or replacement policy with Certificates of Insurance.

Section 7: **Indemnification:** The Borough and Board will both hold harmless and indemnify the other from and for any and all payments, expenses, costs, reasonable attorney fees and for any and all claims and liability for losses or damage to property or injuries to persons occasioned wholly or in part by its own employees, guests, licensees, invitees, subtenants, assignees, or successors, or for any cause or reason whatsoever arising out of or by reason of the respective party's use and/or obligation arising out of or under this Agreement.

Section 8: **Validity of Agreement.** The terms and conditions of this Agreement are deemed severable. If any clause or provision of this Agreement is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of law or by operation of any applicable law, it will not affect the validity of any other clause or provision of this Agreement, but such other clauses and provisions will remain in full force and effect.

Section 9: **Entire Contract.** This Agreement contains the entire contract between the Parties. No representative, agent or employee of the Board or the Borough has been authorized to make any representations or promises, or to vary, alter, or modify the terms hereof. No additions, changes or modifications, renewals or extensions will be binding unless reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

Section 10: **Disputes.** In the event any disputes or questions arise between the parties as to the interpretation of the terms of the agreement or the satisfactory performance by any of the parties of the services and other responsibilities required by the agreement, the parties first agree to meet and attempt to informally resolve said dispute or question. Should a dispute or question still remain pertaining directly or indirectly to the Agreement or matter arising therefrom, the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey, in the County of Bergen, shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine said dispute or question. .

Section 11: **Approval of Agreement**

This Agreement shall be subject to approval by both the Borough of Ridgefield and the Ridgefield Board of Education prior to becoming effective.

In Witness Whereof, the parties have signed this Agreement, or caused these presents to be signed by their proper officers or other representatives, the day and year First above written.

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

RIDGEFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: _____

By: Andrew Higgins

Dated: _____

Dated: 4/2/25

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

RIDGEFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: _____

By: [Signature]

Dated: _____

Dated: 4/2/25

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

RESOLUTION NO. 141-2025

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield wishes to amend its By-Laws; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council has followed the procedure for amendment of those By-Laws as set forth within the By-Laws; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that the By-Laws are amended as follows:

1. Article II, Sections 1,2 and 6 are amended by deleting “he” and “his” and replacing with “he or she” and “his or her”

Article II, Section 9 is amended by deleting 11:00 pm and replacing with 10:00 pm

Article III, Section 1 is amended by deleting 5:00 pm and replacing with 12:00 pm

Article IV, Sections 2, 3 and 4 are amended by deleting “he” and replacing with “he or she”

Article IV, Section 3 is amended by deleting “in writing of such intended absence” and adding “or Borough Clerk” to notification

Article IV, Section 4 is amended to add “or Borough Clerk” to notification

Article IV, Section 9 is amended by deleting order of business and replacing with the following:

Meeting called to order

Roll Call

Announcement: Open Public Meetings Act

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizens’ comments on agenda

Correspondence

Introduction of Ordinances

Public Hearings on Ordinances

Consent agenda, if appropriate, including approvals of applications and minutes

for consideration
 Resolutions including approvals and payments of claims for consideration
 Comments by Mayor
 Comments/Committee Reports by Councilmen
 Comments by Administrator
 Comments by Citizens
 Adjournment

Article IV, Section 12 is amended by deleting “himself”, “his”, “he” and replacing with “himself or herself”, “his or her”, “he or she”

Article V, Section 2 is amended by deleting the standing committees and replacing with the following:

Finance and Administration
 Police; Office of Emergency Management; Municipal Court
 Parks and Recreation
 Department of Public Works; Buildings and Grounds; Street Lighting
 Fire Department
 Health
 Library
 Elections
 Transportation
 Board of Education

Article VII, Section 2 is amended by deleting “Treasurer” and replacing with “Chief Financial Officer”

2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the majority of the full membership of the Council.
3. The Borough Clerk shall prepare an amended version of the By-Laws to reflect these changes, and the Borough Clerk shall cause the existing By-Laws to be amended consistent with the changes in this resolution and shall see that new copies are distributed to the appropriate parties.

Approved:

 Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Attest:

 Linda M. Silvestri, Borough Clerk

COUNCIL VOTE				
	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Kontolios

RESOLUTION NO. 142-2025

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that

JESSICA SCHAEFFER

be hired as a Community Center Attendant at the rate of \$18.00 per hour effective immediately.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

The undersigned, being the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Ridgefield, County of Bergen, New Jersey, and the person charged with the responsibility of maintaining financial records of said Borough in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:4-57 and the rules of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey adopted thereunder, does hereby certify that there are adequate funds available for the payment of the attached list of invoices, duly adopted by said Borough, and which said list indicates the specific line item of said budget to which expenditures shall be charged.

Francis J. Elenio,
Chief Financial Officer

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Councilman Ryu

RESOLUTION NO. 143-2025

BE IT RESOLVED, that warrants totaling **\$6,142,151.47**
be drawn on the following accounts:

CURRENT	\$5,950,881.88
TRUST	\$16,745.05
CAPITAL	\$173,732.55
POOL	\$79.41
DOG FUND	\$37.66
UNEMPLOYMENT	\$674.92
TOTAL	\$6,142,151.47

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting April 14, 2025

Presented by Mayor Jimenez

BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular public meeting be adjourned, and that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield shall meet in a closed Executive Session following a five minute recess at the termination of this meeting. The purpose of the Executive Session shall be to discuss the following matters:

- _____ Personnel matters in various departments of the Borough.
- _____ Pending and Potential Litigation
- _____ Tax Court Litigation.
- _____ Potential real estate transactions in which the Borough may engage.

COUNCIL VOTE				
	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Congalton-Hali				
Kontolios				
Ryu				
Kim				
Ramundo				
Jaafar				
Mayor Jimenez				

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as soon as practicable discussion concerning

- _____ Personnel matters
- _____ Potential real estate transactions shall be disclosed to the public.
- _____ And that discussions with the Borough Attorney concerning litigation shall be disclosed when said litigation is terminated.

Adjournment to Closed Session. The Mayor and Council reserve the right to reconvene into Public Session, if necessary, to take action on Closed Session items.

Approved:

Attest:

Hugo Jimenez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk