



BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
FOR
THURSDAY,
JANUARY 23, 2025
7:00 P.M.

**Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
 Combined Work and Regular Session Meeting Minutes
 January 23, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.**

A combined Work and Regular Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale was held in the Municipal Building at 500 West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, New Jersey on January 23, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Wilczynski.

Linda Cervino, the Municipal Clerk, read the open public meetings statement: “In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, are posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and on the Borough Website, published in The Record within the first 10 days of the New Year, and copies are sent to The Ridgewood News and Star-Ledger. Notice of this meeting by the January 13, 2025, Sunshine Notice was sent to The Record, The Ridgewood News and Star Ledger and has been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and Borough website.”

The roll call was recorded as follows:

	Present	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino	✓	
Councilman O’Toole	✓	
Councilwoman Homan	✓	
Councilwoman Lovisolo	✓	
Councilman Daloisio		✓
Councilman O’Connell	✓	
Mayor Wilczynski	✓	

A quorum was met.

The following were also present: Ray Wiss, Esq., Borough Attorney
 Linda Louise Cervino, Municipal Clerk
 Michael Dillon, Police Chief
 DPW Superintendant, Andrew Agugliaro.

Mayor Wilczynski led the salute to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 6, 2025 Sine Die Meeting Minutes

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O’Toole	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Homan			✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo			✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell		✓	✓			

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 6, 2025 Re-Organization Meeting Minutes

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O’Toole	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Homan			✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo			✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell		✓	✓			

PRESENTATIONS:

Swearing in of Fire Department Officers - Mayor Wilczynski administered the oath of office to the Allendale Fire Department Officers. Photos were taken.

<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	
Fire Chief:	Greg Andersen
Assistant Chief:	Vacant
1 st Captain:	Chris Rago
2 nd Captain:	John Mycek, Jr.
1 st Lieutenant:	Ryan Heath
2 nd Lieutenant:	Chris Peluso

Boy Scouts:

Joshua Alvelo, an Allendale resident, shared that his Eagle Scout project, initially planned for a different purpose, has shifted to a fire safety awareness presentation at the community center. The event will take place on April 5th for the general public and on April 6th for the special needs community. Topics will include fire prevention, fire containment, home fire equipment like extinguishers and detectors, and escape plans.

Jake Alvelo, also working on an Eagle Scout project, plans to build an informational and dedication wall behind the fire pit at Crestwood Lake's Red Barn. The wall will include details about the fire pit's purpose and military branch logos, along with a bench near the pond for older individuals or veterans attending flag retirement ceremonies.

Councilman O’Connell highlighted the urgency of approving the projects, and Councilwoman Lovisolo seconded the motion. The council unanimously approved both projects.

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AGENDA REVIEW:

Mayor Wilczynski reviewed the agenda which consisted of:

- Introduction of Ordinances #25-01, #25-02 and #25-03; and
- Consent Agenda Items 25-65 through 25-69; and
- Resolution 25-70 and Resolution 25-71.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: No one from the public came forward.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

The Municipal Clerk read the title of the ordinance into the record:

- **ORDINANCE 25-01:** : BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$995,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT OR FULLY FUND AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O'Toole			✓			
Councilwoman Homan		✓	✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo	✓		✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O'Connell			✓			

(See Ordinance 25-01 attached and made a part hereof)

The Clerk stated Ordinance 25-01 has been introduced upon first reading and will be published in the Thursday, January 29, 2025, edition of the Record and will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council on February 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm or soon thereafter.

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INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

The Municipal Clerk read the title of the ordinance into the record:

- **ORDINANCE 25-02:** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, SUPPLEMENT AND REVISE ARTICLE II, SECTION 252-9 OF THE BOROUGH CODE OF CHAPTER 252 OF THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”.

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O’Toole	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Homan		✓	✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo			✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell			✓			

(See Ordinance 25-02 attached and made a part hereof)

The Clerk stated Ordinance 25-02 has been introduced upon first reading and will be published in the Thursday, January 29, 2025 edition of the Record and will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council on February 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm or soon thereafter.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

The Municipal Clerk read the title of the ordinance into the record:

- **ORDINANCE 25-03:** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, SUPPLEMENT AND REVISE THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, CHAPTER 252-9(A).

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O’Toole	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Homan		✓	✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo			✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell			✓			

(See Ordinance 25-03 attached and made a part hereof)

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The Clerk stated Ordinance 25-03 has been introduced upon first reading and will be published in the Thursday, January 29, 2025, edition of the Record and will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council on February 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm or soon thereafter.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓		25-69	
Councilman O’Toole			✓			
Councilwoman Homan			✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo		✓	✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell	✓		✓			

(See Resolutions 25-65 through 25-69 attached and made a part hereof)

(For the Record, Councilman Yaccarino abstained Resolution 25-69 and yes to the balance)

ADMINISTRATION:

Council Committee Reports

Councilman Yaccarino, Facilities, Parks and Recreation/ Land Use and Construction Code, stated, we have kicked off our concession stand project. As we stand now, the old structure has been fully demolished. We had our first meeting with our internal team and the contractor for the project. We are working hard to ensure that deadlines are met and that we’re providing a quality structure for Crestwood members and patrons alike. More to come on that.

Further to that, we’re beginning to plan 2025 organizing our policies and procedures as well as lake operations and summer entertainment. We’re hoping to have many new additions this year for that.

Field 3 maintenance has started but it’s currently paused due to sub-freezing temperatures. It will be ready for opening day 2025 and, as such, we’ll continue to do sport field maintenance throughout the year and years to come as we start our new field maintenance program.

Finally, I attended my first Land Use Board meeting in almost four years last Wednesday so I’m happy to be back on the Land Use Board as well as the Land Use Committee.

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Councilman Matthew O’Toole, Public Safety, stated, last week, the public safety committee had the pleasure of attending the ambulance corps annual installation dinner. As always, it was a wonderful time during which many members were recognized for their contributions both to the department and to the community at large. The public safety committee had our first meeting of the year last week with the police department command staff, three of our sergeants were able to attend. Andy Agugliaro was there and the chiefs of the fire department and ambulance corp. Some of the topics that we discussed were the police department interviewing potential hires which will be advanced to the public safety for the next round of interviews in the next couple of weeks. Signs around town, for one reason or the other, that have been out of service for repairs will be going back in place as the weather cooperates.

Public Safety Committee is also evaluating options to address the parking relating to issues downtown, including new signage directing visitors to the municipal lot. Other than that, our new police pickup truck has hit the road. The public safety committee had the pleasure to open negotiations with the PBA for their upcoming contract. The police department is currently working on renewing their accreditation status which occurs every three years. Policy and procedures for the department are viewed to ensure compliance with established practices, laws and regulations.

Finally, a big congratulations to Officer John Rubino, who will be getting married on Saturday.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Homan, Finance, Human Resources, Administration and Information Technology, Public Works & Public Utility, stated, both the Mayor and I met Veolia last week on many different issues. One of the things that I think is important for the public to continue to be aware of is that they are continuing to move forward in putting permanent PFAS treatment down at the New Street location. We currently have temporary treatment on West Crescent and down on New Street, but all those wells will eventually be treated in a permanent fashion down on New Street. Additionally, as many people are aware there’s been a lot of digging on the what is for the lead and cooper rule.

As far as sewer, we have continued to meet on many issues. A developer in Saddle River did make a motion against us in trying to utilize our sewer line for wastewater that would be coming out of a development that they are proposing in Saddle River. Our team has met under the guidance of Ray Wiss. A reply has been sent and that will be in front of a judge on Tuesday. Our team in working very diligently to make sure that we protect the interests of Allendale while being as good of a neighbor as possible. We also are moving forward on what repairs needs to be done on the sewer system that’s currently in Allendale.

Lastly, I’d like to thank the boy scouts and I’m super excited and impressed that we have young adults doing eagle scout projects and seeing you here working with The Green Team. Scouting is an excellent opportunity to develop skills and be helpful in a community, so I can’t thank you all enough for your continued involvement.

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Councilwoman Susanne Lovisolo, Finance, Human Resources, Administration and Information Technology, Land Use and Construction Code, stated, the Finance/HR/Admin and IT committee met this week to discuss our budget. It was our very first meeting. We had our first Land Use Committee this morning. We had a very full agenda as it was our first meeting of the year. I just want to thank Councilman Daloisio for serving on the committee last year and I want to welcome Councilman Tyler Yaccarino to the committee this year. As we discussed residential and non-residential property issues at this committee meeting, certain topics arise that we just want to make sure our residents and business owners are aware of. We would just like to remind our residents that you should not be shoveling your driveway and walkway snow into the street. In addition, you're also responsible for making sure that the sidewalk that abuts your property is clear of snow and ice. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to me or to Mike Limatola, our property maintenance officer in our construction department.

As we look forward to the warmer weather in a few months, we wanted to remind our eating establishments in town that would like to have outdoor dining that you are required to present an outdoor dining plan to the borough that shows the placement of your tables and chairs. No other items can be placed on the sidewalks outside of your restaurants without the approval of the borough. So, if you plan on adding string lights or your own planters or signs or what have you, you must include that on your plan or seek permission separately before placing any items where they are currently not permitted.

We like to welcome new businesses to our wonderful borough. This is a reminder that all businesses now need to register yearly with our clerk's office for the Business Insurance Registry. New businesses are welcomed to come before our Land Use Board so that we can welcome you into our town. Our mayor and council love a good ribbon cutting ceremony. We just came from one at our new community center.

We also encourage our businesses to review our Allendale code or reach out to our construction department if you plan on making any changes to your establishment. As always, feel free to reach out to me or members of the Land Use team with any questions.

We are going to have our library coordinator come and speak about all the improvements that the library is currently doing. They've done a lot of great improvements in the library.

Some upcoming library programs:

For adults, there's still time to register for the Valentine cookie contest. Entries will be judged on February 11th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to taste the cookies and to see who wins a prize.

For kids, they are holding a Korean New Year program on January 29th. Come celebrate the year of the snake and make a papercraft depicting a traditional Korean rice cake soup.

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Nancy encourages people to come visit our new community showcase near the front of the library. The first exhibit features the watercolor artwork of local artists and library volunteer, Sarah Reilly. The exhibits will be rotated monthly and will feature artwork of collections of residents. A complete list of their programs is available on their website.

Councilman Joseph Daloisio, Public Works & Public Utility/ Public Safety was absent.

Councilman Edward O’Connell, Facilities, Parks and Recreation, stated, I will continue keeping on top of the Eagle Scout projects in town. I just want to say a heartfelt thank you to the mayor and council, the Allendale Borough and neighbors and friends for the flowers, and the thoughts and prayers in our time of need.

Staff Reports:

Linda Louise Cervino, Municipal Clerk, stated she has nothing to report.

Councilman Yaccarino added that Amanda Richards and Linda Cervino did a great job at the rabies clinic held at the Red Barn on Saturday, January 18, 2025.

Alison Altano, CFO/Borough Administrator, stated not present.

Michael Dillon, Police Chief

Mike Dillon thanked the mayor and council for their continued support and investment into the police department. We as a team have put the department on a great path to continued success. Lieutenant Griffiths, Sergeant Helmer and I had a pleasure attending today’s ribbon cutting at the community center. Congratulations to you on opening this valuable asset to the residents of Allendale.

Andrew Agugliaro, DPW Superintendent,

We survived our first snowstorm this year. Just to add what Councilwoman Lovisolo said earlier, residents, please be mindful about blowing or shoveling snow into the streets. During snowstorms, our DPW personnel worked tirelessly and long hours to clear the streets for everybody’s safety. Please be aware of that. If you have a fire hydrant near your street or your house, adopt it. Become a hydrant hero. Clear the snow from it. We never know when the hydrants are going to be needed by our volunteer fire fighters, and it would be a huge asset and help if you can do that. We had two retirements this year already: James Moritz and Richie McDowell. They were both integral parts of our DPW process. Jimmy was our equipment operator and took care of and maintained our compost facility year-round. Richie was our lake commander and took care of getting Crestwood Lake open every single year. They will both be missed.

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The DPW is still picking up Christmas trees through February 3, 2025. Right now, we're on the west side. Starting Monday we will be on the east side. Lastly, I'm proud to say that the new rolloff has finally arrived. I want to say thank you to the Mayor and Council, our administrator and our finance committee for allowing this to happen.

Councilman Yaccarino stated that he was in Wyckoff Sunday afternoon and from Wyckoff to Mahwah, we have the best roads.

Andy Agugliaro said we got five inches of snow.

Ray Wiss, Borough Attorney, stated, it's been a very busy couple of weeks on a lot of matters in addition to some of the matters of the ordinances on tonight's agenda. TJ from my office has been working with the chief on OPRA requests that the department is getting. We try as best to comport with the law, but it really does inundate the department and slows down the work that they're really there to do.

I have been working with Hampshire on some issues involving the community center and The Vale and easements between the borough and Vale. With Veolia, a bunch of things are still going on. We're working on easement agreements with them. We need to focus again. I did send an email again to the borough engineer earlier today on the diversion process again. As Councilman O'Toole mentioned, negotiations with the PBA. Councilwoman Homan mentioned we do have an ongoing litigation with a developer in Saddle River. Our submission was sent earlier this week. The reply is due tomorrow. We will be in Court as of now, Tuesday afternoon. There are a lot of complex issues involved there.

Under the upcoming good news, tomorrow we're anticipating a check in settlement of the PK litigation.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Wilczynski stated we've had a great start to the new year. I met with every single committee so I'm looking forward to working with everybody going forward. I'm also looking forward to meeting with each of you individually and we're going to create our goals and strategy again and then they will be presented to the public for their input. I look forward to that. I've already met with Alison Altano, and we plan on meeting with every single borough employee to talk to them about their goals and anything that they need or want and support them in their work and how they can better serve our residents.

I'm happy that everybody is embracing Teams. I think it's going to be great for all our committees to work more efficiently as well as keeping great records. We're continuing to drive innovation. We have GovPilot as our enterprise system and we're looking to put all our Land Use on there. People get permits so we just have much better record-keeping.

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We had our community center ribbon cutting today. Thanks again to everybody involved. Just so people understand, the community center is open to Allendale residents. It's not open to any other town. It's just for us. It's all our residents and our volunteer organizations. We are bucketing sometimes right now just to help with scheduling and just getting the feel for it. So, we have buckets of times that are for open gyms for younger kids, older kids. We have a bucket of time for the pickle ball and for the community center space. That's not the only time the center is going to be open. It's going to be very active. The other spaces in between are for the residents if they want to go to a book club or play bridge or something like that. We do have a state-of-the-art system where we give out codes so we're working through that. Amand Richards in the clerk's office has done a great job implementing that. We do ask for patience and grace as we go through this. It's been an incredibly dynamic, but complicated process. We've never done this before. There's so many things you have to think about. I'm meeting with another volunteer for pickleball so that's going to be up and running. So far, it's been great. We've had some pilots going. Recreation has been starting a little bit just to work out some of the kinks. It has been received very well by the community. We had our first event, a boy scout event.

Later today we're going into closed session. Our planner, Ed Snieckus, is here and we're going to talk about our fourth round. Our experts have been working tirelessly around the clock with us and I'm sure every other town is because there is this very tight deadline of January 31st. It's a very aggressive deadline and we're doing everything that we can to be very fair looking through all the numbers and calculations. It's a complicated process, but we will get there.

Congratulations to Richie McDowell. He's been with our DPW department for 30 years. Is the guru of the lake and he will be missed. Thank you and your team, Andy, for the great work in the snowstorm. I loved seeing the streets in Allendale were nice and cleaned.

Congratulations to our fire department on the officers. We're looking forward to working with them this year and having a great year with them.

We're working on the PBA negotiations. We had a chamber meeting. I had my first league meeting. They started back up which is a great resource for me. It's a non-partisan group. About 30 or 40 mayors show up. We always have great speakers.

Regarding the concession stand, Councilman Yaccarino is keeping everything in check. He's our new project manager. We look forward to keeping that going.

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PRESENTATION:

Allendale Green Team, Mark Savastano

Mark Savastano of The Allendale Green Team approached the podium and made a presentation in front of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale.

“Mayor and Council Members, thank you for the opportunity to report the continued success of the Green Team's efforts to raise awareness of sustainable practices in Allendale. We are now entering our 5th year promoting sustainability and offering opportunities to recycle non-mandated materials and the results could not be more gratifying. It's important that our residents understand what we are doing and why it matters.

We are demonstrating that our curbside pickup represents a source of recoverable and valuable raw materials. A perfect example is our collection of Expanded Polystyrene, EPS #6 commonly referred to as "Styrofoam". The first reaction is "I didn't know that could be recycled", then "It's as light as feather, why does it matter?" Well, the truth it is, this is a plastic which never decomposes and occupies enormous amounts of space in our landfills. This densified brick represents a van load. Our last collection was nearly 800 cubic feet, a large box truck full of material, which was densified to 5 cubic feet weighing 226 lbs. This is the raw material for these items. A second excellent example is Polystyrene Plastic Bags and Film which is the raw material for the Trex bench which we donated to the library.

The team facilitates the collection of an ever-increasing variety of items through our initiatives which have now grown to 12 programs including 4 annual events. We are excited to announce that what was once an occasional collection of EPS has now been replaced by a newly established agreement for a rotating monthly EPS collection in partnership with Ramsey and Upper Saddle River. We have also developed a mutually beneficial partnership with Rohsler's Allendale Nursery involving four of our collection efforts.

The list of events and programs includes:

- Annual Earth Day/Spring Cleanup Event Scheduled this year for Saturday April 26
- Annual Pumpkin & Gourd Compost Collection
- Annual Holiday Lights Collection
- Annual Holiday EPS "styrofoam" Collection
- Ongoing Polyethylene Plastic Film / Bags and Soft Packing Foam collection
- Household/Kitchen Food Scraps Composting via backyard compost bins
- Ongoing Sales of Backyard Compost Bins and Rain Barrels
- Electronics Recycling
- Clothing Recycling/Redistribution /Reuse
- X-ray and MRI Film Recycling
- Proper Medicine/Prescription Disposal in partnership with Valley Hospital and the APD

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- Hazardous Material Disposal in partnership with the BCUA
- Paper Shredding in partnership with the BCUA

We are successful because of our dedicated team of volunteers

1. Our Liaison - Council Member Susanne Lovisolo.
2. Council Member Emeritus - Jim Strauch. Jim continues to collect plastic bags from our borough hall Trex container and deliver them to ACME. He also generously provides the vehicle for our EPS packing foam collections.
3. Carlton Frost who offered the use of his garage to store EPS in April.
4. Walter Widmer who has attended each event without fail and also provided storage for Packing Foam and Holiday Lights.
5. Steve Rycroft and Pat Finn who continue to generously contribute their time.
6. And myself. I continue to enjoy the great satisfaction of contributing to our community.

We expanded our partnerships this year. In addition to the productive relationship we maintain with Lee Memorial Library, in 2024 we established a reliable connection with Northern Highlands and continue to receive enthusiastic support from Kimberly Hayes and Tara Weiss of the Career and Academic Pathways Department. They have both facilitated connection with student volunteers. Tara - I received a call from your husband today, thanking the Green Team for our efforts. He apologized for being unable to attend tonight and he pledged a \$500.00 donation towards our sustainability initiatives. Some of the students who participated in our Pumpkin and EPS Collections are here this evening: Hudson Bloch, Felix Hao, Isabella Zrebiec, Eric Levinsohn, Sophia Taylor and Zoe Heins, Tami Aderemi, Serena Wang and Samantha Yu, Scout Seamus Murphy. Scout Will Skripak assisted with an earlier EPS collection and Krithi Vedam who helped to establish our Instagram account and is interested in helping to organize cleanup in coordination with Carlton Frost during our April event.

We were very fortunate to also have partnered with Rohsler's Allendale Nursery. Bruce generously provided a location for our Pumpkin, Gourd and Mum collection and accepted the material for his compost heap. Further, Bruce provided Holiday Light s, EPS Packing Foam and Electronics, acting as a drop off point during our Holiday collections.

Lastly, I must also recognize the participation of our residents. Each time we thank them for participating in our collections, nothing feels better than them thanking us in return for providing the opportunity to recycle. One resident, who attended our Holiday EPS collection, showed up with a vehicle so filled with EPS, that it took volunteers several minutes to unload. As we thanked him, he stated he had been saving the material for 2 years waiting for an opportunity to recycle it, when he heard of our collection.

As for the results of our efforts - I have previously reported the 8.4 tons of material collected at our April Spring Cleanup/Earth Day Event and 1.1 tons of material collected during our November Pumpkin, Gourd and Mum Compost Collection. Since then, we initiated 3 holiday collections which were active post-Thanksgiving through January 18, to recover electronics, decorative lights and EPS packing foam. In combination with ongoing plastic film collection, these efforts resulted in the diversion of an additional 1,500 lbs. of recyclables from the waste stream bringing the total measured weight in 2024 diverted from the landfill through Green Team activities to nearly 20,000 pounds. While this is impressive, it still does not account for the weight of food waste diverted through use of our backyard compost bins and the

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subscription program subscribed to by residents for curbside food waste pickup by Neighborhood Compost. It also excludes material voluntarily brought to Staples by residents who have learned of their free recycling program through the Green Team.

The AllendaleGreenTeam@gmail.com email now receives regular inquiries, asking for advice on how to recycle the smallest of household items like single use alkaline batteries, which are collected at Staples, to the largest items such as flat screen and CRT TVs which I have delivered to the BCUA in Moonachie. As I have hoped, residents no longer give a puzzled look when the Green Team is mentioned. Instead, they advise their neighbors to "Ask the Green Team!" when seeking recycling advice. They recognize the opportunity to make a personal contribution towards a more sustainable Allendale and that collectively, we are sharing the benefits of thoughtful environmental choices.

Whether success is viewed through the lens of reducing trash expenditures in the municipal budget or through the lens of reducing the weight of trash, which is sent to landfills, we are demonstrating that these are not opposing goals - in fact fiscal responsibility and environmental sustainability coexist providing undeniable benefits.

Your Green Team volunteers are committed to our ideals as outlined in our mission statement and we want to thank you for memorializing those goals in your recent proclamation. By working in collaboration with this body to provide information and opportunities to our residents, and by seeking partnerships with our local businesses, we will continue to promote voluntary participation to achieve progress in reducing the flow of material to landfills. We look forward to building partnerships with additional Allendale Businesses as they become aware of our activities.

Lastly, as chairman of Sustainable Jersey's Bergen Hub Food Waste Committee, I will focus our efforts in 2025 on the opportunity to reduce compostable material in our municipal waste stream through voluntary participation in a new initiative to expand separation of food waste for composting. Similar programs which have been established and operational for several years in Ridgewood and Leonia, demonstrate that compostable material composes greater than 50% of the weight of household trash. These programs separate ALL food waste, including items that cannot be composted in backyard bins, such as meat, fish, bones, soiled pizza boxes, oils, dairy products, etc.

In conclusion, we encourage every Allendale resident to be mindful of the many opportunities to recycle non-mandated materials, share the information with a neighbor, and when in doubt Ask the Green Team via AllendaleGreenTeam@gmail.com.”

Mark held up his posters and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

Councilwoman Lovisolo stated on behalf of the council I want to thank the Green Team and our residents for their focus on recycling sustainability and, Mark, especially for your leadership. You are passionate about this. We really thank you for all that you've done.

Mark Savastano said he wants to give a talk at the community center for all the residents to come.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

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NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER:

No one else from the public came forward.

CLOSED SESSION:

A. **RES 25-70/**Authorize Closed Session

1. For the limited purpose of discussing pending and prospective affordable housing litigation and the municipal obligation with respect thereto.

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O’Toole			✓			
Councilwoman Homan	✓		✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo			✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O’Connell		✓	✓			

(Resolution attached and made a part hereof)

The Regular meeting paused at 8:00 p.m.

The Mayor and Council went into Closed Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. Minutes of this meeting were taken and will be released to the public at the time the matter is resolved.

The Regular Session meeting resumed at 8:40 p.m.

On a Motion by Councilman Yaccarino, second by Councilman O’Connell, all were in favor to exit Closed Session and return to regular session:

RESOLUTIONS:

RES 25-71: RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY COMMITTING TO COMPLY WITH PRESENT NEED (REHAB OBLIGATION) AND THE ROUND 4 PROSPECTIVE NEED SUBJECT TO CORRECTIONS OF DATA AND ALL APPLICABLE ADJUSTMENTS.

The vote was recorded, and a roll call was conducted as follows:

**Mayor and Council of the Borough of Allendale
 Combined Work and Regular Session Meeting Minutes
 January 23, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Yaccarino			✓			
Councilman O'Toole			✓			
Councilwoman Homan		✓	✓			
Councilwoman Lovisolo	✓		✓			
Councilman Daloisio						✓
Councilman O'Connell			✓			

(Resolution attached and made a part hereof)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman O'Connell, second by Councilwoman Homan and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Louise Cervino

 Linda Louise Cervino, RMC
 Municipal Clerk

02/13/2025

 Date Approved