



4th Quarter property taxes are due
November 1st with a 10 day grace period
up to and including November 10th

From the desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

Happy Halloween! I'd like to start by saying how pleased I am with how enthusiastically residents have responded to the Halloween contests created by our Recreation Department.

During this difficult year, Rutherford jumped at the chance to put their Halloween spirit on display as we had over 60 entries to the first ever House Decorating Contest. The Rec department took an otherwise challenging season and worked hard to create fun and unique activities so that our residents have a variety of safe ways to participate in Halloween. Tomorrow the winners of both the House Decorating Contest and the Jack-O-Lantern Carving Contest will be announced. I'd like to thank BCB Bank for sponsoring these events, as well as the first ever Purple Pumpkin Pursuit, and for providing gift certificates to local businesses for the winners.

On Halloween, I'd like to ask everyone to continue to be mindful of social distancing. Historically Park Avenue has been an extremely popular and therefore crowded area for trick-or-treating on Halloween. I'm asking people to refrain from trick-or-treating on Park Avenue this year as it typically results in crowding in and around the storefronts that make social distancing impossible. With the addition of cement barrier parklets and outdoor dining, space on Park Avenue is tight and not conducive to trick-or-treating. I thank you in advance for your cooperation, and encourage you to walk around residential neighborhoods and look for the "Trick-or-Treaters Welcome" signs that homeowners have placed on their property. In the past week, the Rec Department handed out nearly 1,000 of these double sided signs that indicate whether or not a house is handing out candy.

Also around town, you may notice tree stumps being removed. This is the final step to clean in the clean up from Tropical Storm Isiah before sidewalk restoration can begin.

Please have a safe and happy Halloween. Great job with your holiday spirit, Rutherford!

Sincerely,
Mayor Frank Nunziato



Election Information:

Please note there is an official ballot drop-box located at the steps of Borough Hall, 176 Park Ave.



Purple Pumpkin Pursuit

Search Rutherford for the prized purple pumpkin and WIN a \$50 gift certificate!

Dates of Pursuits:

10/30, 10/31, 11/1

Each day one purple pumpkin with a special code will be hidden within the Borough of Rutherford

Clues will be posted at 9 AM, 12 Noon and 3 PM each day on the Rutherford Rec Facebook page and the Rutherford Recreation Instagram pages until the pumpkin is found.

The first participant to find the pumpkin and email rutherfordrecontest@rutherfordboronj.com with a picture of the pumpkin and the special code on the bottom, as well as their contact information, will win a \$50 gift certificate to a Rutherford Business

Winners names will be shared on social media. Open to all ages.

Winning gift certificates will be distributed on Monday, 11/2/20

Only ONE winner per day per pumpkin

Pumpkins will NOT be placed on private property

Councilman Ray Guzman

rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

A thriving local government requires citizens who are willing to give time and talent in the service of their community.

Rutherford's boards, commissions and committees have an important history of guiding the evolution of our Borough. This year Mayor Nunziato has asked Councilman Mark Goldsack and me to spearhead a new application process in order to provide an even stronger pool of resident volunteers for him to appoint in January 2021.

I am happy to announce on November 13th, the Borough will launch an application process for those interested in serving on a board, commission or committee.

Those currently on a board, commission or committee will also be asked to fill out an application so that the Talent Bank records are clear and consistent.

We feel this new process will ensure residents who are appointed have the appropriate expertise and knowledge needed for these groups.

Council President Tom Mullahey

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The Health Department has completed its first round of seasonal influenza vaccines. Additional doses of the flu vaccine still available. Contact the Health Department 201-460-3020 to schedule an appointment.

Councilman Mark Goldsack

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FINANCE:

Resolution 167 - Annual Renewal of Borough's 2021 OPT-OUT Health Program - Passed - This resolution re-affirms the Borough's existing policy which allows eligible Borough employees to waive medical and prescription coverages provided through the Employee Health Benefits program for calendar year 2021. This program allows an eligible employee to waive their medical and prescription coverage in consideration of an annual financial incentive. The 2021 financial incentive is 25% of the applicable premium or \$5,000, whichever is less. These dollar amounts are consistent with the amounts set forth by both the Borough and State law.

Resolution 169 - Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 Relating to the 2018 Road Improvement Program - Passed - This resolution reduces the contract price for the 2018 roads program from \$1,338,781.85 to \$1,314,851.31, a reduction of \$23,930.54.

Resolution 170 - Resolution Awarding the Contract for the 2020 Road Improvement Program to Smith Soudy Asphalt of Wallington, NJ in the amount of \$974,834.45 - Passed - This resolution authorizes the awarding of the contract for the 2020 Road Improvement Program to Smith Soudy Asphalt of Wallington, NJ. The 2020 Road Improvement Program is being funded by both State grant and Borough capital funds.

Resolution 171 - Resolution Combining Bonds Aggregating the Principal Sum of \$18,030,000 Authorized by Four Bond Ordinances - Passed - This resolution combines funding authorized by four separate bond ordinances into one long-term bond issue. After consultation with the Borough's Chief Financial Officer, Borough Administrator and Borough Financial Advisor, we feel that it is in the best interests of the taxpayers of the Borough to take advantage of the historically low interest rates being offered in the municipal market in addition to the Borough's AA+ (S&P) credit rating and issue long term bonds as opposed to short term notes. Short term notes are required to be reissued or "rolled over" on a yearly basis thus subjecting the Borough to whatever fluctuations in the municipal market that may be prevalent at that time. The four bond ordinances to be combined are as follows:

- 1) \$550,00 from Ordinance 3460-18 - 2018 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements in and for the Borough
- 2) \$13,680,000 from Ordinance 3476-18 - 2018 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Construction of a New Police Department Headquarters
- 3) \$1,425,000 from Ordinance 3498-19 - 2019 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements in and for the Borough
- 4) \$2,375,000 from Ordinance 3526-20 - 2020 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements in and for the Borough

Resolution 173 - Resolution Awarding a Non-Fair and Open Contract to Atlas Tree Service for an Amount Not to Exceed \$30,000 - Passed - This resolution awards a contract to Atlas Tree Service for tree work related to the construction of the new Police Headquarters.

LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Shade Tree Commission - The Commission met on 10/20 and took part in a demonstration for a new piece of equipment that we are considering purchasing using our Shade Tree Trust Fund. The equipment, called a Resistograph, would allow members of the DPW Shade Tree Division to drill a small hole into the trunk of a tree, which would then produce a graph based report indicating the thickness of the trunk of that particular tree. This would allow the Shade Tree Division to see whether or not the trunk is showing any signs of hollowness or rot. The Commission feels that this tool can provide valuable information from a risk management perspective. It would allow the Shade Tree Division to be proactive in its determinations of which trees pose the greatest risk of coming down in a storm or other weather event and take appropriate action to prevent future damage. We will continue to discuss the possible purchase of this equipment at our next meeting which is scheduled for 11/17 @ 7pm.

Planning Board - The Planning Board is scheduled to meet on 11/19 @ 7pm.