

A Special Virtual Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Borough of Hawthorne was held on the above date at 7:04pm, via “GoToMeeting”. Council President Matthews announced that the meeting is closed to the public and can be viewed live on Cable Channel 77 and Verizon FIOS Channel 28. Questions/comments can be emailed to the Borough Clerk in advance of the meeting at lfernandez@hawthornenj.org, you may call/log into the meeting during public comments and public hearings to be heard in person by dialing +1(646)749-3112 using the access code 706-992-565, or you may join from your computer, Tablet or Smartphone by logging into: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/706992565>. The following were present:

Mayor	Richard S. Goldberg(via “Go To Meeting”)
Council President	Frank E. Matthews(via “Go To Meeting”)
Council Vice President.....	John V. Lane(via “Go To Meeting”)
Councilman	Bruce A. Bennett(via “Go To Meeting”)
Councilman	Dominic Mele(via “Go To Meeting”)
Councilwoman.....	Rayna Laiosa(via “Go To Meeting”)
Councilman.....	Mike Sciarra(via “Go To Meeting”)
Councilman	Joseph Wojtecki(via “Go To Meeting”)
Borough Administrator	Eric Maurer(via “Go To Meeting”)
Borough Attorney	Michael J. Pasquale(via “Go To Meeting”)
Borough Clerk	Lori Fernandez(via “Go To Meeting”)
<u>ABSENT</u>	
Borough Engineer	Dr. Stephen T. Boswell

FLAG SALUTE

Council President Matthews invited all present to join him in the flag salute.

STATEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been posted on the Borough website and the Public Bulletin Board at the Municipal Building, emailed to the Herald News and The Record, and to all persons who have requested the mailing of such notice and a copy of said notice has remained on file in the office of the Borough Clerk from and since April 23, 2020.

RESOLUTION:

CONSENT AGENDA: R 56-20

R 56-20 Introduced by Councilman Sciarra

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67a permits the governing body by resolution to fix the rate of interest to be charged for the nonpayment of taxes, assessments, or other municipal liens or charges, on or before the date when they would become delinquent; and

WHEREAS, the statute provides that the rate of interest cannot exceed 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00, to be calculated from the date the tax was payable until the date that actual payment to the tax collector is made; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hawthorne has established on an annual basis interest rates of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500 of the delinquency and 18% on any amount in excess of the same; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the State and Federal declarations of a major disaster throughout New Jersey, the governing body of the Borough of Hawthorne wishes to change the rate of interest for future delinquent tax payments;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Hawthorne in the County of Passaic that the rate of interest for taxes unpaid after May 11, 2020, which is the date upon which the ten-day grace period afforded taxpayers on making tax payment expires, is fixed at .000001% on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and .000001% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00, effective May 1, 2020 and running through June 30, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective July 1, 2020 the rate of interest for taxes unpaid from and after that date is fixed at 8% on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rate of interest for taxes unpaid shall be calculated from date of the quarterly payment until the date of actual payment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough of Hawthorne, be posted to the Borough website and a copy of this adopted Resolution be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

Council President Matthews entertained a motion to approve consent agenda resolution R 56-20, moved by Councilman Sciarra, seconded by Councilman Wojtecki. On roll call, all voted yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Matthews opened the meeting to the public. He stated if anyone desired to be heard, please call in now at +1(646)749-3112 access code 706-992-565, or email the Borough Clerk at lfernandez@hawthornenj.org. Members of the public who are logged into the GoToMeeting can chat in now with their questions. Hearing none, Council President Matthews entertained a motion to close public comment, moved by Councilman Bennett, seconded by Councilman Sciarra. Carried on voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:17pm Council President Matthews entertained a motion to adjourn the Special Virtual Meeting, moved by Councilwoman Wojtecki, seconded by Councilman Sciarra. Carried on voice vote.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

IS A VIRUTAL MEETING VIA GOTO MEETINGS ON

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6th at 7:00 PM

Frank E. Matthews, Council President

Lori Fernandez, RMC, CMC Borough Clerk