

**City of Englewood**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**January 20, 2015**

A Regular Formal Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, was held in the Municipal Court in the Public Safety Building commencing at 7:30 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Council member Marc Forman  
 Council member Michael Cohen  
 Council member Eugene Skurnick  
 Council member Wayne Hamer  
 Council President Lynne Algrant  
 Mayor Frank Huttle III  
 City Manager Timothy Dacey  
 City Attorney William Bailey  
 City Clerk Lauren Vande Vaarst

Absent:

President Algrant called the meeting to order.

The City Clerk stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by the posting, filing and distribution of the notice as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Swearing In:**

**Police Officer James T. Reed**  
**Police Officer Ximena Sarria**

**RESOLUTION #047-01-20-15**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MINUTES**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following minutes be and are hereby accepted and filed:

COUNCIL MEETING  
 December 16, 2014

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING  
 December 16, 2014  
 January 14, 2015

ANNUAL ORGANIZATION MEETING  
 January 6, 2015

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>		X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>	X	X			

**RESOLUTION #048-01-20-15**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS AND CLAIMS**

**WHEREAS**, The Chief Financial Officer has certified and submitted a consolidated bill and claims list for payment as well as a consolidated list of prepaid items. The prepaid items include emergency payments, wire transfers and regularly scheduled monthly payments that are paid between bill and claims list dates; and

**WHEREAS**, all bills and claims listed herewith have been encumbered and sufficient funds are available for payment; and

**WHEREAS**, the required signatures have all been obtained on each voucher on the attached list.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Englewood, that the bills and claims on the submitted lists are hereby approved for payment in the total amount of \$7,944,192.86.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>	X	X			
<i>Skurnick</i>		X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**Communications from the Mayor/Council Member:**

**Comments from the City Manager:**

- No report

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

- No one from the Public came forward to speak.

**RESOLUTION #049-01-20-15**

**APPOINT BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey; that the following appointment is confirmed to the Board of Health for the following term:

Ketsia Alerte Sadler, 143 Tenafly Road, Apartment 5A, be reappointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017.

Aliza B. Solomon, D.O., 163 Rockwood Place, be appointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #050-01-20-15**

**APPOINT RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey; that the following appointments are confirmed to the Recreation Advisory Committee for the following terms:

Betty Griffin, 208 Warren Street, be reappointed as a member to a three-year term expiring December 31, 2017.

Magalye Matos, 304 Rosemont Place, be reappointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017.

Horace Ragbir, 51 W. Hamilton Avenue, be appointed as a member to a one-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

Pastor Jovan Davis, 20 Cross Street, be appointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

Marc Forman, 275 Engle Street, appointed as City Council Liaison to a one-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

Appointing Jeffrey Richardson, 312 Central Avenue, to serve as Chairman of the Recreation Advisory Committee commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #051-01-20-15**

**APPOINT TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey; that the following appointments are confirmed to the Traffic Advisory Committee for the following terms:

Shirley Smith, 374 W. Palisade Avenue, be reappointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017.

Jordan Comet, 463 Cape May Street, be appointed as a member to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017.

Ron Strobel MD, 226 Chestnut Street, be appointed as a member to fulfill an unexpired one-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

Michael Cohen, 181 Madison Avenue, appointed as City Council Liaison to a one-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

Appointing David Popkin, 303 Tenafly Road, to serve as Secretary of the Traffic Advisory Committee commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #052-01-20-15**

**APPOINT HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey; that the following appointments are confirmed to the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee for the following terms:

Will Lee, 163 W. Demarest Avenue, reappointed as a Class B member to a four-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2018.

Norman Davis, 68 Dwight Place, Apt. A, reappointed as a Class C member to a four-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2018.

Thomas Monroe, 178 Liberty Road, #4, be appointed as a Class A member to a four-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2018.

Richard Bennett, 290 Katherine Street, be appointed as a Class C, Alternate #1 member to a two-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016.

Eva Poneris, 287 Oakwood Road, reappointed as a Class C, Alternate #2 member to a two-year term commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016.

<i>COUNCIL</i>	<i>MOTION</i>	<i>AYES</i>	<i>NAYS</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #053-01-20-15**

**REFUNDS DUE TO STATE TAX APPEALS**

**WHEREAS**, a judgment has been received from the Tax Court of New Jersey for the following Block and Lots in the City of Englewood; and

**WHEREAS**, the said judgments have created and overpayment on the tax account listed for said years;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Englewood, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and he is hereby authorized to refund overpayment of the property taxes in the amount of \$75,819.75 for said years due to successful tax court judgments.

<i>COUNCIL</i>	<i>MOTION</i>	<i>AYES</i>	<i>NAYS</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #054-01-20-15**

**REFUNDS DUE TO DISABLED VETERAN**

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Frederick Shepard, has filed an application for a Property Tax Exemption for a Disabled Veteran with proper supporting documentation thus making him eligible for an exemption on property taxes as of May 19, 2014.

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Shepard having satisfied his property tax obligations for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2014 and now reflects an overpayment of \$3,535.99.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Englewood, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Chief Financial Officer to issue a check in the amount of \$3,535.99 to Mr. Frederick Shepard, 313 W Hudson Avenue, Englewood, New Jersey , also known as Block 107, Lot 21; and,

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

<i>COUNCIL</i>	<i>MOTION</i>	<i>AYES</i>	<i>NAYS</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #055-01-20-15**

**APPOINTING CITY ARBORIST**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Englewood requires the services of a certified Arborist whose duties will include conducting the Hazard-Health Assessment, detailed tree inspections, reporting and staff training of the City's trees as well as other services required to be performed by an Arborist; and

**WHEREAS**, on the recommendation of the Director of Public Works, the City Council has determined, based on professional experience, expertise and reputation, to award a contract for such services to William R. Comery, LLC, Licensed Tree Expert, with offices at 285 Fairview Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 as other than a "Fair and Open" contract as defined therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A: 1 1-1 et. seq.) authorizes the award of such professional services contracts without competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager has determined that William R. Comery, LLC will be paid on an as-needed basis at an hourly rate of \$95.00 per hour, and that the value of this contract will not exceed \$17,500 in the 2015 operating year: and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available to award this contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey that a professional services contract is hereby awarded to William R. Comery, LLC to provide professional arborist services, and the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute and attest to an agreement between the City of Englewood and William R. Comery, LLC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of the within resolution, together with a copy of the Agreement be on file in the Office of the City Clerk and be available for public inspection during regular business hours; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a brief notice to be published once in the Record newspaper stating the nature, duration, service, and amount of the contract and that the resolution and contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

## RESOLUTION #056-01-20-15

### APPOINTING CONSULTING CITY ARBORIST

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Commission and the Green Team of the City of Englewood received a grant from the State of New Jersey in 2010 in the amount of \$10,000 and the City of Englewood authorized a contribution of an additional \$10,000, in "in kind" services to the project via Resolution # 145-07-06-10; and in conjunction with this grant the City of Englewood needs to rewrite its Forestry Management Plan, conduct both a City Tree Inventory and Hazard-Health Assessment of the City's trees; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Englewood requires the services of a certified Arborist whose duties will include providing planning and support services relative to updating the City's Community Forestry Management Plan, Preparation of Urban Forest Assessment (Phase One Street Tree Inventory), and establishment of standard details, specifications and planting lists to support the proper management of Englewood's Urban Forest; and

**WHEREAS**, on the recommendation of the Director of Public Works, the City Council has determined, based on professional experience, expertise and reputation, to award a contract for such services to Paul Cowie & Associates with offices at 11N. Beverwyck Road, Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 as other than a "Fair and Open" contract as defined therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A: 1 1-1 et. seq.) authorizes the award of such professional services contracts without competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager has determined that this contract shall be provided for based upon a negotiated lump sum fee on a project by project basis and that the value of this contract will not exceed \$17,500 in the 2015 operating year: and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available to award this contract and a copy of said certification is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey that a professional services contract is hereby awarded to Paul Cowie & Associates to provide professional arborist services, and the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute and attest to an agreement between the City of Englewood and Paul Cowie & Associates.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of the within resolution, together with a copy of the Agreement be on file in the Office of the City Clerk and be available for public inspection during regular business hours; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a brief notice to be published once in the Record newspaper stating the nature, duration, service, and amount of the contract and that the resolution and contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOTION</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #057-01-20-15**

**AWARD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO ACACIA FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. TO SERVE AS FINANCIAL ADVISORS FOR THE CITY OF ENGLEWOOD**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Englewood has the need for professional financial advisors and to assist in issuing long term debt to replace some short term notes in early 2015. The scope of work will include:

- Bond Issuances and Structuring
- Cash-flow/ Rate Modeling
- Market Monitoring
- Debt Management policy
- Rating Strategies
- Credit Enhancement

**WHEREAS**, on the recommendation of the City Manager, the City Council has determined, based on professional experience, expertise and reputation, to award a contract for such services to Acacia Financial Group, Inc., 601 Route 73 North, Suite 206, Marlton, New Jersey 08053 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 as other than a "Fair and Open" contract as defined therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A: 1 1-1 et. seq.) authorizes the award of such professional services contracts without competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager has determined the value of this contract for the scope of services as stated above and in the attached proposal, is not to exceed \$17,500.00 for a one-year contract;

**WHEREAS**, Acacia Financial Group, Inc. will complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Political Contribution Disclosure Form certifying that the firm has not made or will make any reportable contributions that would bar the award of this contract under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. and City of Englewood Ordinance No. 07-31; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available to award this contract and a copy of said certification is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, State of New Jersey that a professional services contract is hereby awarded to Acacia Financial Group, Inc to serve as professional financial advisors for the City of Englewood;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of the within resolution, together with a copy of the Agreement and that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value, be on file in the Office of the City Clerk and be available for public inspection during regular business hours; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a brief notice to be published once in the Record newspaper stating the nature, duration, service, and amount of the contract and that the resolution and contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>MOTION</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**Resolution #058-01-20-15**

**REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER  
FOR ICE ARENA DONATIONS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29**

**WHEREAS**, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonable accurate estimates in advance; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29. provides for receipt of bequests, legacies and gifts by the city to provide for the operation costs to administer this act; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the following are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

Ice Arena Donations;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Englewood, County of Bergen, New Jersey as follows:

1. The City of Englewood Council does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures for:

Ice Arena Donations

as per N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29.

2. The City Clerk of the City of Englewood, County of Bergen is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

COUNCIL	MOTION	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**RESOLUTION #059-01-20-15**

**AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ENGLEWOOD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
TO MANAGE THE ENGLEWOOD BUSINESS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Englewood wishes to develop an apprenticeship program for Englewood residents entering their junior and senior years of high school; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the program is to recruit and work with local businesses to provide summer employment and/or apprenticeship opportunities for Englewood residents entering their junior and senior years of High School, and to provide said students with opportunities to learn and develop business management and employment skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Englewood wishes to have the Englewood Economic Development Corporation manage this program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Englewood will enter into an Agreement with the Englewood Economic Development Corporation to manage the Englewood Business Apprenticeship Program, a summer enrichment program for Englewood residents entering junior and senior years of high school subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The Englewood Economic Development Corporation will manage in cooperation with the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, the Englewood Business Apprenticeship Program to recruit local businesses in order to provide employment and/or apprenticeship opportunities for the participants in the Program;

2. Each student participating in the program shall be required to work twenty five (25) hours each week, and in addition thereto shall be required to attend two (2) hours of workshops each week on specific business management and employment skills. Students shall be selected by a Committee comprised of members of the Englewood Economic Development Corporation and the Englewood Chamber of Commerce whose selection criteria shall be designed to identify students most likely to benefit from the program;

3. The program will begin Monday, June 29, 2015 and conclude on Friday, August 7, 2015. Upon conclusion of the program each student who completes the program shall receive a stipend of \$1,000.00, and attend a commencement ceremony to which the general public, local employers and City Officials and dignitaries shall be invited;

4. The cost of the program shall not exceed \$40,000.00 which will be paid by the City to the Englewood Economic Development Corporation prior to the commencement of the program. The \$40,000.00 shall include \$4,000.00 for administrative expenses and \$36,000.00 for thirty six (36) apprenticeships. Any costs beyond the \$4,000.00 for administrative expenses shall be borne by the Englewood Economic Development Corporation. These funds shall be specifically earmarked and designated for the apprenticeship program;

5. At the conclusion of the program in August 2015, the Englewood Economic Development Corporation and selection Committee shall prepare a comprehensive review, financial analysis and accounting to be submitted to and reviewed by the Governing Body of the City of Englewood. In addition, the Englewood Economic Development Corporation will prepare a proposed budget for 2015, if the City is inclined to continue the program for 2015.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute such necessary documents to effectuate this Agreement.

<i>COUNCIL</i>	<i>MOTION</i>	<i>AYES</i>	<i>NAYS</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Forman</i>		X			
<i>Skurnick</i>	X	X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Hamer</i>		X			

**EEDC Proposed budget for 2015**

Revenues:

\$40,000 City-sponsored apprenticeships  
 \$5,000 Rotary sponsored fellowships

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\$45,000.00 Total revenues

Expenses:

\$36,000 City-sponsored apprenticeships  
 \$5,000 Rotary sponsored fellowship  
 \$3,000 management expenses Bergen Family Center  
 \$1,000 management expenses Chamber of Commerce

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\$45,000.00 Total expenses

**Presentation:**

**Mayor Frank Huttle III “State of the City Address” (see attached)**

**Public Session:**

- Chris Gagliardi West Street:
  - Providing a citizen’s response to the Mayor’s State of the City Address. Very pleased with the mayor’s initiatives and is looking forward to serve as the Chair of the Accessibility Committee in order to help make the City of Englewood accessible for all.
  - Spoke about the importance of education especially a “school to work” initiative for the mentally and physically disabled.

**ADJOURN: 8:20 PM**

Motion: Hamer  
 All in Favor

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Lauren Vande Vaarst, RMC  
 City Clerk

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**



**FRANK HUTTLE III**

**CITY HALL  
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631**

**(201) 871-6666**

*State of the City Address*

*January 20, 2015*

Council President Algrant, Councilmembers Skurnick, Hamer, Cohen and Forman, residents of Englewood – Thank you for being here this evening.

I come before this distinguished body with hope and optimism in hand – and to report that the State of our City is strong.

Until recently the idea of a thriving Englewood was dismissed as an impossible dream. But today that dream has become a reality and Englewood is moving forward.

I am proud of what we accomplished together and I thank the members of the council for their support.

Five years ago we embarked on a journey to turn around a city. In the four years preceding my first term, Englewood's taxes increased almost 50% and had nearly doubled over the previous decade. I inherited a dire financial situation concealed by one-year fixes and absent of any long-term solutions.

State of the City Address  
January 20, 2015

Many of the services Englewood residents depended on were insufficient or failing. Our city government was stuck in neutral, trying to tackle 21<sup>st</sup> century problems with 20<sup>th</sup> century ideas.

Despite never aspiring to pursue elected office, I ran for Mayor because I believed we could do better by simply changing the culture within our government.

From day one we started running government like a business, removing an ineffective bureaucracy.

We replaced the city's entire senior staff, installing all new department heads and a new City Manager.

We sought ways to increase services and reduce costs. And found common sense solutions to many of the problems we faced. Today, the City spends less than the City did five years ago.

Together we implemented new budgeting strategies, resulting in 3 consecutive budgets with no tax increase and a fourth with virtually no tax increase - a stark contrast to the runaway yearly increases Englewood residents previously endured.

Our philosophy was simple, Englewood could not continue to tax its way out of its financial difficulties.

State of the City Address  
January 20, 2015

We also began spending your money more wisely and reprioritized services like snow plowing; which for decades was so poorly managed many side streets were not being plowed after a storm.

Today we have vastly improved our Public Works Department with new equipment and better planning.

Leaf removal was constantly a problem causing large piles to build up on main arteries reducing them to one-lane corridors. With the purchase of a truck vacuum system and the operational skill of a newly lead and resurgent DPW we have made leaf removal better than ever.

We have implemented a program to make the city more walkable in areas residents were often forced to trek over neighbors' lawns or walk in busy streets.

Prior to 2010, you were more likely to win the Powerball lottery than have a new sidewalk installed in your neighborhood and that is unacceptable.

The directive from my office was clear - public safety should never be compromised or delayed because of administrative red tape.

As part of the Master Plan, we have now streamlined the process and are executing a plan to make the entire City more pedestrian friendly.

State of the City Address  
January 20, 2015

Part of that plan included strict enforcement of city laws that require existing sidewalks to be cleared after snowstorms so that walking to work, temple or church is possible even in winter weather.

Over the past 5 years, Englewood has been a leader in community policing, both under our former Chief Arthur O'Keefe and our current Chief Larry Suffern. Our neighborhoods are safer and we have cut costs through improved efficiency.

Under their leadership, we proactively addressed security around temples and synagogues, instead of simply reacting to Homeland Security threat levels.

These forward-thinking initiatives served as the catalyst for security programs we have implemented with Department of Homeland Security. Most of which has been paid for with federal grants and little local tax dollars.

Our law enforcement personnel continue to work with all schools, houses of worship and regularly re-evaluate any potential risks to our schools, churches and synagogues.

No dollar amount can ever quantify the value of our first responders and I have the utmost confidence in their leadership. That is why we forged a new alliance between our volunteer ambulance corps and Englewood

State of the City Address  
January 20, 2015

Hospital, continuing to harness the tremendous dedication and volunteer spirit of the ambulance corps and combining it with state of the art equipment and facilities of Englewood Hospital.

As such, I will continue to fight any attempts to install a civilian public safety director at the head of the Englewood Police and Fire Departments.

Well-trained officers promoted from within the ranks and who will never compromise public safety lead the best police and fire departments.

Since I became Mayor, we have had four devastating storms and a host of other emergencies like the one Sunday morning where freezing rain created icy conditions on our City's roadways. We have revamped the Office of Emergency Management communication system so at the flip of a switch vital information can be communicated to our residents. We also formed the Local Emergency Management Council, consisting of volunteers from institutions composing a cross section of our community and with our OEM Director, Joe Sorbanelli, as chair. This ongoing initiative will allow the City in a time of emergency when communications by phone, text and email go down, to have a group of volunteers standing ready to communicate door to door and by leaflet.

State of the City Address  
January 20, 2015

Englewood - we have come together, stayed together and worked together to move our city forward.

This is the time to keep our foot on the gas and continue advancing onward. Our work is not done - The decisions ahead will be harder and the consequences for inaction even greater.

This is why I am calling on our elected, civic and business leaders to cultivate new alliances in pursuit of our collective goals. When we work together everybody does better.

First and foremost, we must work together towards improving the quality of education in Englewood.

And let me be clear - I will not be dissuaded by those who draw dividing lines between the Board of Education and the City government. The stakes are too high and the issue too important for any prospective ideas to be shut out.

Whether you send your children to our public schools or not; whether you think the Board of Education spends too much or too little; no matter what your views are - we all have an investment in seeing our children meet their potential.

Through education we can improve our local economy, increase property values and keep our children on path towards success. Our

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communities are only as strong as our weakest neighbor and education is our collective responsibility.

At the 2015 reorganization I announced my initiative of new alliances and I want to highlight a few of these partnerships and alliances because they are a vital component in moving Englewood forward.

One new alliance will join together the Englewood Board of Education and higher ed institutions like Bergen Community College. Preliminary discussions have already begun to bring Bergen Community College classrooms to Englewood and help our students better prepare for college.

We must also address the need for more community services, particularly those services that provide opportunities for our children.

I have proposed a new alliance with the Board of Education to formally develop a plan to open more doors at our public schools to serve our children using existing facilities for a variety of After 3 programs.

Education is our greatest equalizer. No matter the socioeconomic conditions a child is born in to, they are entitled to a world-class education and a pathway to success.

If we want to attract people to Englewood we must create an environment for long-term sustainability.

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And so we as a community look forward to the Board of Education, working together as one on the single most important issue presently facing our schools – leadership. We must stop the revolving door of superintendents and put our children first. I am confident the Board of Education will bring to our community the best of the best to serve our children and we as a community should join together in embracing new leadership for the next decade.

Speaking of Leadership, I would also like to recognize Coach Barry Harris for instilling leadership in his players early on. Recently, he had his players take a pledge to be upstanders and not bystanders against domestic violence. Whether these players win on the field or not, they are leaders and winners thanks to the efforts of Coach Harris and his great coaches.

Advancing the missions and goals set forth in the historic Master Plan that was adopted by the City Council is the first step.

The Master Plan recognizes the City of Englewood, its community, its neighborhoods, and its businesses as an amazing place to live, work and raise a family.

Englewood Hospital and its affiliated home health service company employ over 4,000 people, making it the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest employer in the county. Having an acute care facility within our borders makes

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Englewood an ideal location for a healthcare hub and that is why our new and forward thinking Master Plan contains the RIM Initiative – the Research Industry and Medical District.

Our newly inaugurated County Executive Jim Tedesco outlined the potential of healthcare hubs as a significant economic stimulus to the region. Good jobs build stronger communities and I will work with the economic agencies at the county and state level to bring medical industry to Englewood.

The Master Plan also calls for senior housing to be constructed, the first time in decades new senior apartments will be built. Seniors, a category I am now a member of according the AARP, who reside in Englewood and want to continue to live here, should have the opportunity to do so.

It is our residents in the golden years of their life that pass on the values and traditions of our city to the next generation.

Also, for those with special needs, we have formed the Englewood Advisory Committee for the Disabled, which will address accessibility and the unique needs of this population in our City. Accordingly, I proposed building several housing units specifically designed for those with special needs so that they might continue to call Englewood home. I call upon the Council to make this plan a reality.

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Perhaps the greatest challenge we face is our aging transportation system and the stress being placed on our infrastructure. Designed during a period when families had one car and SUVs were not a mainstream vehicle - our roads are at near capacity.

That is why state and transit leaders must partner with local communities and extend the Hudson Bergen light rail system. A transportation network such as this will help power a mature economy like we have Northern New Jersey. The facts are indisputable we have no alternative but to build this vital infrastructure.

For 40 years, updating the Master Plan has confounded many others who have held this job. But this is only the first step and history will judge this council on its ability and willingness to implement these strategies. You have a blueprint and tools to infuse over One Billion dollars of private investment into our local economy, while protecting the character of our neighborhoods. Will we be remembered as leaders who had a vision of prolonged sustainability or will you allow politics to inhibit change?

So tonight I present a challenge to the council, our Board of Education and Boards - Take action.

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I am calling on the Council to embrace change and move forward with the Master Plan's strategies. It is also time for the council to officially adopt the 2010 Mayor's Commission on Budget and Finance recommendations in full. Only then will we be able to deliver the flat taxes and improved services we have seen during my administration long into the future.

I am calling upon the Housing Authority to build age restricted housing in an amazing location so that our older residents will have the opportunity to live in Englewood, while continuing to shop, enjoy restaurants, and everything the downtown has to offer. And that location is the Liberty School.

I am calling on the Board of Education to embrace new opportunities and remain open to all proposals. I wait with an outstretched hand offering my help and resources.

The goals I have laid out may be ambitious but they are achievable; the challenges we face are real but can be conquered; and the dreams may be grand but we are a city that shoots for the stars.

Dr King said "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

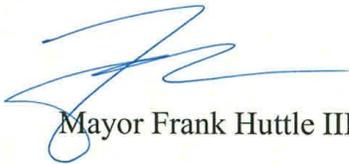
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So as we take on these challenges let us remain committed to our principals but never forget that the values that bind us are stronger than the issues that divide us.

The state of our city is strong, the foundation of our community cannot be broken and together we are all One Englewood.

God Bless the Unites States of America, the City of Englewood, our troops overseas and all our first responders.

Thank you



Mayor Frank Huttle III