

**COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-245

**TITLE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF A
TAX APPEAL FOR VERIZON NJ INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,616.75**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs have been advised of the proposed settlement of a property Tax Appeal filed by Verizon, NJ Inc. (hereinafter “Verizon”) under Docket Numbers: 0138268-2018, 005903-2020, 000809-2021, 00290-2022, 004529-2023, 006156-2025 and 009911-2025; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is listed in the tax records at Block 1501, Lot 1 and consists of various addresses; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey law, specifically, N.J.S.A. 54:4-1et seq., states that Verizon is required to pay a “Business Personal Property Tax” (BPPT) to a taxing district in which they provide 51% of the dial tone and access lines in the local telephone exchange; and

WHEREAS, Verizon has contended since 2018 that it fell below the 51% threshold in Englewood Cliffs and therefore was not required to pay the BPPT; and

WHEREAS, since 2018, Verizon has filed tax appeals against the Borough, which were placed on the Tax Court’s inactive list, pending the outcome of Verizon New Jersey, Inc. v. Borough of Hopewell, which was ultimately decided by the New Jersey Supreme Court in 2024; and

WHEREAS, in Verizon New Jersey, Inc. v. Borough of Hopewell, 258 N.J. 255 (2024), the Court affirmed a methodology to calculate the BPPT, which is now followed by Verizon; and

WHEREAS, it is Verizon’s position that the methodology indicates that they were not required to pay the BPPT for the tax year 2025 and possibly for the prior tax years pending appeal; and

WHEREAS, despite their position, Verizon has agreed to withdraw all prior years except 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Assessor and Tax Appeal Attorney are of the opinion that the settlement is fair and reasonable and they recommend approval by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Tax Appeal settlement is set forth in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough to settle the subject Tax Appeal in accordance with the settlement proposal set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, if the Tax Court rules as this resolution states, the judgment will result in a refund in the amount of \$18,616.75; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds; and

WHEREAS, the line-item appropriation is GL Account No. 6-01-250-004 - Reserve Tax Appeals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, that the settlement of the aforesaid Tax Appeal as set forth on Schedule A is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Appeal Attorney is hereby authorized to execute all documents and perform any act necessary to effectuate the purpose set forth in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Court Judgment shall be accepted when issued by the Tax Court and the Finance and Tax offices are instructed to take the necessary steps to refund the account.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, held this 14th day of October 2026.

	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Biegacz			✓				
Liang	✓		✓				
Patel		✓	✓				
Kapsaskis			✓				
Lee			✓				
Koutroubas			✓				
Mayor Park							



Mark Park
Mayor



Intashan Chowdhury,
MPA
Temporary Deputy
Municipal Clerk

SCHEDULE A

The terms of the aforesaid settlement shall be as follows:

The pending appeals for Tax Years 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 shall be withdrawn by Plaintiff and Defendant shall withdrawal all counterclaims, if any.

For tax year 2025, the assessment for the BPPT shall be zero'd out and a refund for payments made by Verizon for the tax year 2025 shall be issued by the Borough.