

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

November 23, 2015

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Public Session in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Council President Peter Calamari with the Clerk leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears and Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney; Matthew Cavallo, Business Administrator. Glenn Beckmeyer arrived at 8:41 p.m.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act this meeting was listed in the Township Council Annual Meeting List which was published in The Bergen Record, forwarded to the local newspapers, posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Sears, to approve the November 9, 2015 Public, Conference & Closed Session. (Beckmeyer Abstain)
Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.
Nays: None.

Mr. Calamari – Mr. Calamari stated he would like to update the questions that were asked of him at previous council meetings. He stated the reason that the children of Washington School were not able to use the field is due to the fact that the field was being prepared for Town Day. With regard to the Pedestrian Signs, he did speak with Captain Hackbarth, who is not in favor of the signs and believes they are more of a distraction to drivers, but the Captain does support permanent signs at the intersections, not signs that bend and flex. He spoke of comments made by the Woodcliff Lake mayor in the Pascack Press. He stated himself and Councilman Sears did co-author a Letter to the Editor in response, and he also reached out to the Council President of Woodcliff Lake who stated he would get back to him after the holidays. With regard to the potholes on Beech and Ridgewood, they have been taken care of.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Dr. Cascio, to open the general public discussion.
Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.
Nays: None.

Joe D'Urso, 12 Viola Terrace – Mr. D'Urso asked if introducing the 2016 Salary Ordinance is permitted at this time and if a special budget meeting was held. Mr. Calamari stated that this Salary Ordinance was received by him on Friday, and he would like to table it since he does have questions on it and feels it is premature to introduce it at this point.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment congratulated the three councilman elect and thanked Mr. Beckmeyer and Mr. Frank for their service. She spoke of the response Mr. Calamari gave with regard to the children of Washington School not being able to use the field, which she believes was due to a football game not Town Day. She asked if a Director of Finance or a Director of DMF have been hired. Mr. Calamari replied that is the area of the administration. She spoke at length with regard to the duties of a Council President, past council meetings, and the salary ordinance that was put on the agenda. Mr. Calamari stated the administration asked to put it on. She read from a brochure that was circulated stating people's parties' affiliations. She spoke at length with regard to recognized political parties in

the State of New Jersey, and the Independent party. Mr. Calamari stated that he feels this has nothing to do with council and her time is up.

Bob Gilson, 288 Beech Street – Mr. Gilson spoke of the lack of leaf pick up in his area, and his suggestion of rotating the zones. A discussion followed with regard to Zone 3, which is Mr. Gilson's zone. He stated that garbage pickup has been reduced from 7 to 6 days, the cut off being October 16th and if another week will be reduced next year. Mayor Sobkowicz replied no, it will go back to normal, we will restore the week. He stated with regard to potholes, the issue he has is the time it takes to fill them.

Ray Bernroth, 838 Crest Place – Mr. Bernroth asked if an outside contractor can be hired to assist our DMF in picking up the leaves. Should be looked into

Michael Ullman, 2 Clark Avenue – Mr. Ullman spoke of minutes from December 2013 whereby the Mayor stated that newly elected individuals were invited to sit at the table and familiarize themselves with the council meetings, and receive packets and as of this date he has not been asked to participate. He also spoke at length with regard to the dates of reorg meetings in the past. Mr. Calamari stated he never sat at the council table until he was sworn in. Mayor Sobkowicz stated in the past when a new council was elected those members were invited to sit at the table. Mr. Calamari stated he has no problem if Mr. Ullman wants to sit at the table. A discussion followed with regard to a Letter to the Editor written by Mr. Calamari accusing Mr. Ullman of breaking election laws. Mr. Calamari stated he will do his research and have a response for Mr. Ullman at the next meeting.

David Snyder, 91 Windsor Circle – Mr. Snyder spoke of the need for the permanent crosswalk signs and the areas which he feels they are needed. He stated he is happy with the updates on Exit 171. He spoke of the need for televising meetings. Mayor Sobkowicz stated it is in the new budget. He asked what the status of the "Welcome" signs is. Mayor Sobkowicz replied it is being worked on. He spoke of the poor condition of the sidewalks in the area of the shopping center and that this should be enforced with the homeowner.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura asked who Mr. Calamari contacted with regard to the children not being able to use the field on Friday. Mr. Calamari replied the Town Day committee. Mr. Sears explained the sequence of events with regard to the school being notified of the field being used for the putting up of the tents for Town Day that Friday, he stated other dates were offered to the school. He stated the school was notified that Friday morning that the tents were not going to be put up due to the pending storm. A discussion followed with regard to a football game being held that Saturday. Ms. Plantamura spoke of the condition of Robinwood Road, and the sinking/collapsing of the grate in the street. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke at length with regard to Robinwood, Washington and Sycamore and she will try to get the engineer to look at the area Ms. Plantamura is speaking of. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the recreation salaries, with regard to counselor, coordinator and specialist, and their duties. Ms. Plantamura asked with regard to Exit 171, can residents attend Woodcliff Lake meetings. Mr. Calamari stated yes, but he would suggest we wait until 2016 since Woodcliff Lake has elected a new mayor. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke at length with regard to prior meetings with Mayor Goldsmith.

Patricia Carcone, 426 Fern Street – Ms. Carcone questioned the Zoning Board members expiring terms. Mr. Calamari stated two members are seeking renewal, those being Mr. Rappa and Mr. Scuderi, Mr. O'Connell are not interested in serving another term and one person is not interested in serving another term and one person is resigning. A discussion followed with regard to the length of the terms and some of the terms being staggered. Ms. Carcone stated in this town is it hard to follow. She stated board appointments are for four years regular members and two years alternates.

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Dr. Cascio to close the public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Mayor Sobkowicz – Mayor Sobkowicz stated with regard to Exit 171 we have over 1600 people who have completed either the online petition or the paper petition which can be completed and we will forward to the appropriate parties. She stated the petitions are signed by various towns in the Pascack Valley. She stated the petitions have also been dropped off in the Senior Centers of the various towns and she appreciates all the work other residents from neighboring towns are doing to help us with this petition.

Mr. Frank – Mr. Frank stated that Hillsdale brought it up at their last council meeting and Councilman Anthony DeRosa from Hillsdale is interested in cooperating with us.

ORDINANCE

2ND Reading Ordinance No. 15-19

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 15-19 entitled AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN APPROPRIATION OF \$35,000 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND, CAPITAL FUND BALANCE ACCOUNT TO FINANCE THE COST OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AS DESCRIBED HEREIN.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Sears, to introduce and pass Ordinance No. 15-19 at second reading by title.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

The following resolution, Resolution No. 15-305 was presented and adopted on a motion by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Sears.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Ordinance No. 15-19 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN APPROPRIATION OF \$35,000 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND, CAPITAL FUND BALANCE ACCOUNT TO FINANCE THE COST OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AS DESCRIBED HEREIN be read on second reading and the public hearing be held thereon pursuant to law.

A motion was made by Mr. Frank, seconded by Mr. Sears, to open the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Cynthia Cannon, 804 Manhattan Avenue – Mrs. Cannon asked how many computers are being purchased. Mayor Sobkowicz stated it is 16 in house computers and a server. Administrator Cavallo stated the server itself is \$9,500. A discussion followed with regard to the pricing. Mayor Sobkowicz stated the funds are from the Capital Surplus account and it will be paid in cash.

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Frank to close the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

A motion was made Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Sears, to pass Ordinance No. 15-19 on a second and final reading, submit the same to the Mayor for her approval and thereafter be published according to law.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Introduction Ordinance No. 15-20

Mr. Calamari – Mr. Calamari stated he would like to make a motion to not introduce this ordinance at this time since the figures were received on Friday, he does have some questions and believes council also has some questions. He asked that this ordinance be pulled from the agenda.

Administrator Cavallo – Administrator Cavallo asked if this ordinance can be discussed at the conference table.

Mr. Calamari – Mr. Calamari replied yes.

A discussion followed with regard to whether Ordinance No. 15-20 will be introduced this year or next year.

Administrator Cavallo – Administrator Cavallo asked that this Ordinance No. 15-21 also be pulled and he will explain at the conference table why they were separated also.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions were part of the Consent Agenda and were made available to the Governing Body and the Public prior to the meeting.

The Consent Agenda was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. Sears, seconded by Dr. Cascio.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Administrator Cavallo explained Resolution No. 15-308 the Cancellation of Emergency Appropriation.

Firehouse Commuter Parking spaces was discussed.

Resolution No. 15-308

Cancellation of Emergency Appropriation

WHEREAS, Emergency Appropriation Resolution #15-234 was adopted on August 4, 2015 for Garbage and Trash Removal in the 2015 Current Fund budget in the amount of \$200,000.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-48; and

WHEREAS, the amount anticipated exceeded the final cost associated with Garbage and Trash Removal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, that the special emergency appropriation for \$200,000.00 be herein reduced to \$11,200.00 to be raised in the 2016 Current Fund budget pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-47; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk shall file a copy of this resolution with the Director of Local Government Services.

Resolution No. 15-309

Tax Refund

WHEREAS, an overpayment for the 4th quarter property taxes was paid twice by lender and Title company and the Title Company has requested a refund;

WHEREAS, under the N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, tax overpayments shall be refunded to the payer:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, be authorized to issue a refund to:

Altor Abstract Co.
145 North Franklin Turnpike, Suite 324

Rodiero, Simon & Alyssa (New Owners)
Arsi, Susan (Former Owner)
Block 4409.Lot 51 \$ 1,672.00
342 Fern Street

Resolution No. 15-310

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Donald & Barbara Lane posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 3118 Lot 12, 691 Fern Street; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated November 4, 2015, C.O. No. 15-339; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated October 15, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$608.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-311

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Joseph and Mary Rizzo posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 4419 Lot 21, 275 Hickory Street; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated November 6, 2015, C.O. No. 13-026; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 6, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$363.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-312

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Murray Construction posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 2407 Lot 14, 281 Ridgewood Blvd N.; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated November 6, 2015, C.O. No. 14-446; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated July 17, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$363.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-313

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Barbara Tomaras posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 4425 Lot 20, 285 Howard Street; and

WHEREAS, this project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per confirmation with the engineer's office on September 11, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$412.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-314

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Rasim Akhtemov posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 1405.01 Lot 15, 111 Douglas Drive; and

WHEREAS, this project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated July 17, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$265.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-315

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Brothers Construction posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 4213 Lot 7, 629 Calvin Street; and

WHEREAS, this project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 21, 2015; and

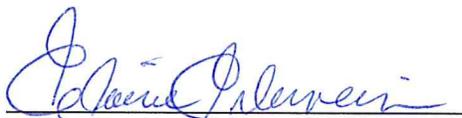
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$510.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 15-316

Commuter Parking 2016

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to issue 65 commuter parking permits for the Firehouse Parking Lot for the year 2016. As of November 23, 2015 thirty-nine (39) parking permits have been issued.

Time Noted: 8:31 p.m.



Elaine Erlewein
Township Clerk



Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: December 7, 2015

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

CONFERENCE PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

November 23, 2015

Members present: Glenn Beckmeyer, Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears, Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Matthew Cavallo, Administrator; Ken Poller, Attorney; Council to be member Michael Ullman.

Time Noted: 8:41 p.m

CURRENT BUSINESS

Intersection of Pascack Road and Washington Avenue – No new information has been received from the County. Dr. Cascio asked if Mr. Poller has the settlement agreement. Mr. Poller replied yes, the settlement agreement is with Woodcliff Lake, Saddle River, the County and the Highway Authority.

Memorial Field Public Bond Question – Mr. Calamari asked if anyone has any questions before this subject is put to a vote, that being whether to put it to a Special Election or the General Election. Dr. Cascio commented on not burdening the taxpayers with a special election and he believes the best way to get a sampling of what people feel is at the General Election since it will be a presidential election. Mr. Calamari replied he does agree. A discussion followed with regard to getting the field ready for the Spring for the various programs, keeping track of what is spent and the maintenance. A discussion followed with regard to the sprinkler system, the pump and the well. Dr. Cascio spoke of the Open Space Inventory and the Master Plan. Administrator Cavallo stated the Master Plan is due for revision this March, it is reviewed every six years.

Mr. Calamari asked is anyone in favor of having a Special Election please vote yes or if you are in favor of letting it go to the next General Election vote no.

Ayes: None.

Nays: Councilman Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Calamari, Sears.

Mr. Calamari stated as it stands right now it will be at the 2016 General Election.

A discussion followed with regard getting the field ready for the Spring and what the High School charges for the renting of their field.

Update on Administrator & CFO Positions – Mayor Sobkowicz stated she will have interviewed six or seven candidates in the next couple of days, and she has also interviewed two for the CFO position, which will be a part time position. It has also been advertised in The Record.

Expiring Zoning Board Members – Mr. Calamari asked council to reach out to see if anyone is interested. Mr. Poller spoke of the past resolution and the reason why the terms were staggered.

Administrator Cavallo – Administrator Cavallo spoke of the Salary Ordinance and the paperwork that is created when the ordinance is past at the end of the year. He commented at length with regard to the Salary Ordinance and the municipal budget. He stated he did speak with Gary Vinci, the auditor and it is a legal and common procedure to introduce the Salary Ordinance at the end of the year for the upcoming year. He spoke at length with regard to the increases in the Salary Ordinance of 1.5%, and the reason for the two ordinances. A discussion followed with regard to the salaries which can be amended by an ordinance and what positions cannot be raised until the

reorganization meeting. A conversation followed with regard to the salaries which are reflected on the Salary Ordinance. Administrator Cavallo recommends introducing this Salary Ordinance for the rest of the staff. A discussion followed with regard to rolling mileage into certain salaries and not being it on a voucher system. A discussion followed with regard to employees that cannot be statutorily reduced. There was a discussion of bringing all part time employees to \$15.00 per hour, which the mayor does not agree with. A conversation followed with regard to employees that work part time positions that equal to full time positions.

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Dr. Cascio to adjourn.

Time Noted: 9: 18 p.m.



Elaine Erlewein
Township Clerk



Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: December 7, 2015